

LANDDEWIBREFF UNITED SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

IN THE COUNTY OF CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.
Capital £50,000, in 6000 shares of £10 each.—No free shares.
DIRECTORS.

JOHN MARSHALL, Esq., Horfirth Hall, Leeds.
GEO. REED, Esq., Burnham, Somerset, Director of West Somerset Railway.
ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Esq., Erskine House, Hampstead.
JOSIAH BATES, Esq., 27, Throgmorton-street.
HENRY NICHOLS, Esq., Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn.
WILLIAM BEVAN, Esq., Stapleton, near Bristol.
SECRETARY—Thomas Baillie, Esq., Blackheath, formerly of the Colonial Office.
SOLICITORS—Messrs. Coode, Kingdon, and Coton, 10, King's Arms-yard, City.
BANKERS—The Bank of London; Stuckey's Banking Company, Bristol.
ENGINEERS—Mr. Geo. Hennwood, Leeds; Capt. Rowe, Laxey, Isle of Man.
OFFICE, No. 11, OLD JEWRY CHAMBERS, OLD JEWRY.

PROSPECTUS.

This company is proposed to be established under the Act of Parliament 18th and 19th Vict., c. 133, by which the liability of each shareholder is limited to the amount of his shares; and the mines intended to be worked comprise a series of five distinct workings, called respectively "Llanddwibref," "Eagair Gad Fach," "Cwm Dewi," "Rhysog," and "Cwm Robert," situated in the county of Cardigan, in South Wales, and are held under a lease from the Bishop of St. David's and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England, for a term of 21 years from Jan. 1, 1855, at 12th dues.

It is intended that the whole of the five mines shall be worked simultaneously under one management, and a staff of officers engaged, whose whole time shall be given up to the company; and as the selection will be made solely with a view to the efficient working of the mines, every department will be carefully filled with the best men, affording a guarantee to the shareholders that the mines will be properly and systematically developed. After the most liberal and careful calculations, it is believed that the sum named as the capital of the company will be sufficient to make the mines dividend-paying, and place them amongst the best in the country.

The reports of the engineers state that water-power can be used to any extent, which will render unnecessary the adoption of expensive steam machinery, the cost of the necessary water-power apparatus being, in comparison, very moderate.

The lodes have been ascertained and proved at a large cost, which will be included in the purchase, and the reports of the engineers will show the character and value of the mines.

The Eagair Gad Fach Mine may be at once made productive, and lead ore raised and sold, and within two years the whole of the mines may be in full work, and return regularly and profitably made.

The quality of the ore is very fine—that from Cwm Robert being peculiarly rich in silver, and of a similar character to that of the neighbouring mine, Llanddwibref, which averaged upwards of 50 ozs. to the ton: one of the lodes in Llanddwibref set also produces lead ore rich with silver. The other lodes yield lead ore containing, on an average, 10 ozs. of silver to the ton.

The demand for lead is continually increasing, the price improving and remunerative, and the favourable reports and suggestions of the engineers render it desirable to proceed with the work as early as possible, to secure the coming season for making profitable returns.

It is intended the affairs of the company shall be conducted under the management of not less than six directors, until the first general meeting, to be held within 14 days after the complete registration of the company, at which meeting the shareholders may make such an addition to the number of the directors, not exceeding three, as they think proper, for carrying on the undertaking.

The lessees have expended considerable sums in obtaining a lease, and in developing the five mines which it is the object of the company to work, and who have placed the question of their remuneration entirely in the hands of the engineers, who, after maturely considering the matter, have agreed that the following payments would be fair, as between them and the company:—

For their actual cost and outlay	£ 4,500 0 0
For the purchase-money, and for their risk, trouble, and loss of time during three years, in surveying, testing, and developing the lodes, which, as will be seen by the plan, section, and reports, have been very extensive and satisfactory	5,500 0 0 = £10,000 0 0
The sums calculated to be required for the future working of the 5 sets—	
Llanddwibref	£10,000 0 0
Eagair Gad Fach	6,000 0 0
Cwm Dewi	2,000 0 0
Old Rhysog	12,000 0 0
Cwm Robert	10,000 0 0 = 40,000 0 0
Contingency, if required	10,000 0 0
Not exceeding in the whole	£60,000 0 0

Maps, plans, and specifications of the different ores from each mine, with the stratifications and matrices, may be inspected, and all further information obtained from the secretary, at the offices, who will give introductions to enable parties to visit and inspect the mineral ground.

The promoters, in estimating the sum necessary for bringing the mines into full working condition, have put down what they believe to be the outside cost; and they have made the following arrangements for the payment of the capital, though they do not anticipate that more than £5 per share will be required. The capital will be raised as follows:—The sum of £3 per share on allotment, the further sum of £2 per share in three months from date of allotment, and a further call of £2 on Jan. 1, 1857. The remaining calls will only be demanded at intervals, after three months' notice, provided they shall be required during the progress of the works.

It has been thought desirable to have a reserved fund of £10,000, either for enlarged and at present unanticipated discoveries, or for making provision against unforeseen interruptions from water and other accidental interferences with the gradual progress and development of the works. This provision is also desirable, considering the magnitude of the enterprise, which ought not to be left exposed or unprovided against any such unexpected emergencies.

Detailed prospectus, containing Reports on the Llanddwibref Cwm Lead Mining Sett, from Mr. G. HENWOOD, of Leeds; Mr. R. ROWS, of Laxey Mines, Isle of Man; and Mr. T. WILLIAMS, Manager of the Liwys Maleses Mine; can be obtained at the offices of the company, 11, Old Jewry Chambers, Old Jewry, London, where applications for shares should be addressed.

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We commend this review to the careful perusal of our readers.—*Mining Journal*, Evingham Wilson, publisher, 11, Royal Exchange; also, *Mining Journal* office, 26, Fleet-street, London.

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Capital £25,000, in 2500 shares of £10 each.—Deposit £6 5s. per share. The old shares of £1 each in the Treburgett Consols Mine will be received in exchange, and in payment of the deposit of £6 5s. per share.

OFFICES, —9, AUSTINFIARRIS.

Prospects of this company will shortly be issued, and the company provisionally registered, according to the Act which limits liability to shareholders.

THE MINERS' ELECTRO-CHEMICAL REDUCTION COMPANY.

Liability limited to the amount of shares subscribed for.

Capital £30,000, in 10,000 shares of £3 each.—Deposit £1 per share.

A company is forming to work Wagstaffe and Perkins's valuable patent for extracting the various metals from ores, and preserving all the metals separately by a simple and effectual chemical process, at a small expense.

This process may be applied to every mine in the country with immense profit and little outlay. Mixed and poor ores, now almost worthless, may be rendered remunerative by this patent. Mining companies may obtain licenses; and chemists, metallurgists, and others, may test the process.

Every information may be obtained on reference to THOMAS LEE, Esq., solicitor, 26, Moorgate-street; or to J. H. CLEMENT, Esq., at the offices of the company, 4, Union-court, Old Broad-street, where applications for shares may be addressed, by letter.

SOCIETE METALLURGIQUE A BONN (PRUSSE RHENANE).

ANNOUCE PREALABLE.

VENTE DE TOUTES LES MINES DE FER APPARTENANT A LA SOCIETE ET CONSTITUANT UNE PROPRIETE DES PLUS IMPORTANTES.

Ces groupes de mines, comprenant 72 mines, sont situées partie dans le duché de Nassau, partie dans les provinces rhénanes (fer oolithique rouge compacte, fer oxydé hydraté compact, fer carbonaté lithoïde) et servent vendues publiquement au plus d'offre, par devant M. EILENDER, notaire, en son étude à Bonn, le 27 Mars courant.

On pourra se procurer, à partir du 15 Mars courant, une nomenclature des mines avec descriptions et les conditions de la vente à Bonn, au Siège de la Société, Allée de la Pépinière E I Nro. 1; à Aix-la-Chapelle, chez Mr. le Conseiller LEOPOLD SCHEIBLER, Président du Conseil d'Administration de la Société Métallurgique.

S'adresser, en attendant, pour plus amples renseignements aux facteurs des mines de ladite Société, cité—Weilburg (Nassau) à Mr. FRED. SCHMIDT; à Poppelsdorf, près Bonn, à Mr. FRED. HÜLLER.

Ces mines avaient été vendues par le Conseil d'Administration, de l'assentiment du Conseil général, et sous réserve de l'approbation de l'Assemblée générale, pour la somme de 525,000 Ecus de Prusse, soit 125,000 comptant, 400,000 en actions de la Société métallurgique au pair et la ratification du marché fut décrétée par l'Assemblée générale extraordinaire du 25 Février dernier.

La décision précédente a été rapportée par l'Assemblée générale extraordinaire du 25 Février en présence d'une protestation émanant d'une minorité d'actionnaires, et en conséquence la vente publique a été décidée.

DIRECTION DE LA SOCIETE METALLURGIQUE.

Bonn, le 26 Février, 1856.

[TRANSLATION.]

METALLURGICAL SOCIETY OF BONN (RHENISH PRUSSIA).—PRELIMINARY ADVERTISEMENT.

SALE OF THE WHOLE OF THE IRON MINES BELONGING TO THE SAID SOCIETY, AND FORMING A MOST IMPORTANT PROPERTY.

These groups of mines, comprising 72 mines, situated partly in the Duchy of Nassau, and partly in the Rhine provinces, containing compact red oolithic iron, compact hydrated oxide of iron, and carbonaceous ironstone, will be PUBLICLY SOLD, to the highest bidder, by Maitre EILENDER, Notary, at his office at Bonn, on the 27th day of March inst.

Catalogues of the mines, with descriptions and conditions of sale, may be obtained, on and after the 15th March, at Bonn, at the offices of the society, Allée de la Pépinière E I Nro. 1; and at Aix-la-Chapelle, of Mr. le Conseiller LEOPOLD SCHEIBLER, President of the Council of Administration of the Metallurgical Society. In the meantime, apply for more ample details to the mining agents of the said company,—viz. at Weilburg (Nassau), to Mr. FRED. SCHMIDT; and at Poppelsdorf (near Bonn), to Mr. FRED. HÜLLER.

These mines had been sold by the General Council, and under reserve of the approbation of the General Meeting, for the sum of 525,000 Prussian crowns (125,000 cash, and 400,000 in shares of the Metallurgical Society, at par), and the ratification of the bargain was decreed by the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 26th February for confirmation, when, in consequence of a protest emanating from a minority of the shareholders, a public sale was decided upon.

Bonn, Feb. 25, 1856. DIRECTION OF THE METALLURGICAL SOCIETY.

Mr. Harris, of the Nant-y-Glo Ironworks, and briefly noticed in the Journal of 24th Nov. A, communication from him, through which the steam enters the purifier, curved at B, giving it a direction towards the bottom; C, shows the space for expansion in a slight degree, thereby permitting all suspended matters in it to be precipitated in the purifier, and preventing all priming; D, education pipe, for the passage of purified steam to the cylinders; E, a wooden float, partially suspended in condensed water, which, as it accumulates, holds all mud and extraneous matters carried over from the boiler, will rise, and by the aid of the beam and rods, as shown, open the valve, H, permitting the steam to blow off all the sediment and water at the bottom of the purifier, F, until the float sinks again, sufficient to close the valve, H, thus rendering the apparatus self-acting; G, pipe for the discharge of the precipitated matters through exit pipe, I; K, beam; L, float-rod; M, balance; N, guide; O, valve rod; P, fulcrum.

Sir,—I again call your attention to the sentence introduced into my advertisement, which appeared in your Journal of the 15th December last:—"Although self-acting, which as above described, is exceedingly simple and inexpensive, but may be rendered still less costly if made to work by hand, when necessary to open valve H and exit pipe, I, thus doing away with the float, beam, balance, and other apparatus." That I can assure you was sent you without my knowledge, by some evil disposed and ignorant Welsh parties, with an intention to do me great injury—a party who profess themselves engineers of upwards of 30 years' experience. The patentee has stated that any person of 30 hours' experience must know that anything self-acting is far superior to that worked by hand for the purpose. It is not known when to open this valve, or cock, to discharge the condensed water and mud without loss of steam; no one is inside the boiler or steam-pipes to give the information. It was the study of our ancestors, Boulton and Watt, to get something self-acting for this purpose. As regards receivers and cock in steam-pipes worked by hand, it would be better for proprietors to have them taken out, and cast into the depths of the sea, there for ever to remain. For instance, see the amount of fuel that must be consumed to keep up the quantity of steam losing continually—more fuel consumed—more burning of the boiler-plate. My Steam Purifier is self-acting, and doing its duty without the loss of any steam. I am happy to inform proprietors of engines that the saving effected by the Steam Purifier is upwards of 30 per cent. in tallow or oil used in cylinders; the saving in fuel, packing, &c., is 25 per cent., to say nothing of wear and tear of machinery. Now, let me ask the Welsh engineers, who have been trying to poison the minds of steam-engine proprietors against my Steam Purifier, what their saving is in tallow, oil, &c., with their receivers and cocks worked by hand? I must consider that the greater part of the eminent Welsh ironmasters are still led in the dark by their Welsh agents, who know little or nothing of the really practical part in working steam-engines.

Sir,—Again call your attention to the sentence introduced into my advertisement, which appeared in your Journal of the 15th December last:—"Although self-acting, which as above described, is exceedingly simple and inexpensive, but may be rendered still less costly if made to work by hand, when necessary to open valve H and exit pipe, I, thus doing away with the float, beam, balance, and other apparatus." That I can assure you was sent you without my knowledge, by some evil disposed and ignorant Welsh parties, with an intention to do me great injury—a party who profess themselves engineers of upwards of 30 years' experience. The patentee has stated that any person of 30 hours' experience must know that anything self-acting is far superior to that worked

Original Correspondent.

PRACTICAL MINING—ON THE DIP OF LODES.

SIR.—An easy contrivance for measuring the underlay of shafts, dip of lodes, &c., may be useful to many of your readers, as it is simple, costless, and can be made by almost any miner or carpenter. The mode of construction is as follows:—On a convenient piece of wood, *a b c d* (fig. 1), draw two straight lines, *A VI*; *VI B*, at right angles to each other; describe the semi-circle, *A VI*; divide *A VI* into six equal parts; on centre, *A*, and with distances, *A I*, *A II*, *A III*, &c.; describe semi-circles *I I*, *II II*, *III III*, &c., and from *VI* draw lines touching these circles; these lines indicate the underlays of 1, 2, 3 feet, &c., per fathom. Similarly as shown by dotted lines in fig. 1, lines can be drawn for 1 ft. 3 in., 1 ft. 6 in., and 1 ft. 9 in. per fm., or, if the figure is large enough, for every inch of difference of underlay.

Fig. 2 shows the instrument finished; there are two ways to use it.—First, fix a carpenter's common box spirit level, so as to turn round the point, *VI*, as on a centre; then place *a c* on the bottom of inclined shaft or footwall of lode, and move the spirit level round *VI* till it is level; the line it coincides with will indicate the underlay. Secondly, at the point *A*, fix a plumb-bob of the length *A VI*, so as to hang freely; then, as before, place *a c* on the declivity to be measured, mark the point where the plumb-bob cuts the semi-circle, *A VI*, and the line on the instrument cutting it at the same point will show the underlay. If it be required to measure the underlay of the hanging-wall of a lode, or top of an inclined shaft, place a piece of wood, so as to complete the parallelogram, *a b c d* (fig. 2, dotted lines), and apply the side, *a b*, to the hanging-wall. Remark that, in this construction, an underlay of (say) 2 ft. in a fm. means that 1 fm. in length on the dip of the lode subtends a horizontal length of 2 ft.; or, in other words, that two-sixths, or one-third, is the cosine of angle of depression.—Launceston, March 12. A. H. PATTERSON, C.E.

THE RICHEST MINING DISTRICT IN CORNWALL.

SIR.—As I promised, I will now give you a description of a mining district which differs from all others that I have written on. In fact, I believe there is not another district in which there are so many rich mines, in the same extent of ground, to be found in the known world. I will take the Carn Brea Hill, from the eastern part of South Carn Brea Mine to the Condurrow Mine, and a little beyond, for my centre of observation. I will now commence from the place I left off in your Journal of Feb. 2, under the heading of the MINING DISTRICT WEST AND NORTH FROM CARN BREA. In order to clearly convey my views and observations to your readers, I will give you two longitudinal parallels—the one, already described, from the South Carn Brea Mine to Condurrow, and the other from the high ground to the south and adjoining the rich great Buller, westerly on to the end of that high ground, which extends nearly to Pendarves, which is distant between three and four miles.

This run of ground is bounded on the south by what I will call (for distinction sake) the great Wendron granite. The Wheal Buller, Wheal Bassett, South Frances, a part of West Frances, also a part of Wheal Grenville and New South Condurrow rest on the north confines of this granite range. Between this line and the Carn Brea granite range lies a bed, or basin, of slate formation (killas). I believe that all the lodes which rest on the base of this Wendron range of granite have their dips, or inclination, north, and towards the slate formation to the south. Directly behind these mines there is not one, to my knowledge, that has proved productive for copper.

In the ground intermediate between these two longitudinal ranges of granite, you have North Bassett, a part of West Frances, and a part of Wheal Grenville. A little to the east of North Bassett are the East Bassett and Copper Hill Mines, which, relatively speaking, is in the same channel of ground as the North and West Bassets, which make their riches for copper in the granite, but below the killas, or slate ground, as is the case in all the rich mines along the line described. It is from this fact that East Bassett, which has not yet sold a ton of copper ore, stands so high in the market. This mine is 60 fms. deep, sinking in the killas or slate basin, having to the west the North Bassett granite, dipping east; to the south Wheal Buller and Bassett granite, dipping north; therefore it is only a work of time to reach in depth the granite, when all who know this district anticipate good results.

Copper Hill stands to the east of East Bassett: formerly it formed part of Wheal Buller, but being on a north lode, separate and distinct from the lodes worked in Wheal Buller, it was worked as a separate mine. I am not certain that they have yet reached the granite, but having met with good ores lately, I should think that they have done so. Be this as it may, my anticipations of the productiveness of this mine, as also the East Bassett, is when they reach the granite in depth.

MINES IN THE CARN BREA RANGE.

The various mines and trials made in this portion of the district have not yet been crowned with success. I will commence with the most eastern mine—South Carn Brea. At this mine they have a very large lode, and the captain from time to time reports very favourably; and I must confess that I have been watching it with considerable interest for a long time, and am much disappointed in there not having been something better found ere this. I have also been watching the North Wheal Frances, with the same expectation and solicitude, but to the present time I cannot find that they have improved in the ratio a miner would have expected, reasoning from the generally encouraging indications which have presented themselves for the last year or two.

These disappointments have led me to search for the cause of the non-fulfilment of such promises. In doing so I have thoughtfully reflected on this piece of ground, and find that all the mines, and the explorations made in the Carn Brea high range of ground, up to the present time, have proved worthless, with one exception only—Condurrow Mine. Then comes the question—What is the cause of the unsuccessful mining in this range of high ground? Is it a greater depth required to get at the hidden riches? Is it that the lodes are to continue non-productive in this long slip of ground? Many think that a greater depth is required; others that this high granite ridge is the main foundation, or base, on which rests the southern extensive groups of rich mines in this district, having their dip, or inclination, off, and not towards or under this hill. Presuming this to be correct, then we find a similar instance to the south of Carn Brea Hill, or granite range, which is the northern part of the great Wendron granite, so called for distinction sake. On this, and with its dip or inclination north, we find first, as before stated, the Great Wheal Buller, Wheal Bassett, and South Frances. The other mines to the west in that line have not yet reached the ore ground, which they may yet do by perseverance.

In the high Carn Brea range, I should like to see the South Carn Brea Mine worked, say 50 or 60 fms. below the adit level, which has been brought into the deeper part of this mine, even to the bottom of the engine-shaft, from which the old Carn Brea Mine. They have a large promising lode in this mine, with such strong indications as to lead a miner to expect good results; but I believe, if ever there is to be copper found to constitute it a rich mine, it must be in depth; but this even is very speculative and uncertain. These remarks must apply to all the other mines in this long and high slip of ground. This is the opinion of observing men, and it is my opinion, founded on comparison with other mining localities and districts. It may not be correct, although it is written by

A BAL CAPTAIN.

P.S.—The northern mines, which rest on the base of this Carn Brea range, and those still to the north, I will notice in my next.—B. C.

WHEAL FRIENDSHIP UNDERGROUND HAULING-MACHINES.

SIR.—Observing of late allusions made to these machines, I beg the favour of occupying a space in your widely-circulated Journal to give some particulars respecting them. Their origin arose from the circumstance of there being a very great expense incurred in raising the ores, &c., from the lower levels of this mine by manual labour, in situations where machinery could not be brought to bear from the surface for that purpose. These circumstances being brought under my notice by the agents, I contrived or invented a machine to be worked by the pump-rod of the engines employed for pumping the water out of the mine, from which a rope or chain could be conveyed to any part of the mine, shaft, winze, &c., where it might be required. This was in the latter part of the year 1841; in February, 1842, the first of these machines was set to work, which machine has been working up to this time, wanting but little repair. At the meeting of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, held in September of that year (1842), I exhibited a model of the machine, and was awarded a silver medal for my invention. Since then two others have been erected in this mine, one in the year 1844 and the other in 1850; they have fully answered all the purposes for which they were intended, and are as applicable for the surface as for underground, where the moving power is at a distance from the shaft, whatever that distance may be; one of them at this mine is placed 150 fms. below the surface, and the water-wheel is 200 fms. from the shaft, the whole being 350 fms.

The construction of these machines is simple, durable, strong, and cheap. The cost of one I sent to North Wales in 1844 was under 40*l.*, complete at foundry, exclusive of wood; as to its capabilities, there can be no reasonable limits assigned to it as weight or speed. Its simplicity is proved by the circumstance that it requires no attention in its operation but by the lander, who can manage it, together with the landing, with perfect ease, this man (the lander) being very recently an agricultural labourer. Its durability is proved by the 14 years it has been in use, and the amount of work done in that time. They are hauling from 30 to 40 fms. in depth, at the rate of a sufficient quantity of stuff for a man to remove with a shovel, while it (the machine) is at work. It occupies a small space, and is capable of modification, so as to be suitable to almost any situation; as proof, neither two of the machines at work here are alike, and one that I erected at the Tywarnhale Mines, in Cornwall,

in 1852, had not even two wheels, but on only, and it fully answered all the purposes for which it was designed, and continued to work as long as the mine did.

I should not have troubled you with these remarks but for the allusions made to my invention. Much has been said about the new machines lately put up at the Devon Great Consols for the same purpose, and I doubt not but what some alteration has been made in the construction, but whether these alterations are improvements I think yet remain to be proved.

Wheat Friendship, March 11.

ANTHONY HOWES, Engineer.

WHEAL EXMOUTH AND ADAMS, AND MR. N. ENNOR.

SIR.—I observe a letter, in your last Journal, from Mr. Ennor, reflecting on the management of these mines, and which, I think, calls for a short notice from me. His statements cannot mislead miners, who, I believe, generally look upon them, as they are doubtless intended, as advertisements to his clients: but they may mislead the shareholders, whom it is my duty to put upon their guard.

Assertions, and, least of all, Mr. Ennor's assertions, are not proofs, and when, as in this case, recklessly and thoughtlessly made against individual character and property, with which he has no connection, cannot be too severely reprehended. He has, however, shown more than his usual mining ignorance in this instance. What miner of reputation would have hazarded the assumption as he has, that there is an uniform ratio between the returns and costs of mines? It is palpably absurd, and equally so his assumption that the depth of a mine is a test. A shallow mine may employ more men, and have harder or more costly ground, with less value, than a deep one. Our ground here is speedy, as he says, but, as a consequence, expensive for timber, and our lead averages only from 12*l.* to 15*l.* per ton; whereas, I believe the Tamar Mine, which he names, produces 25*l.* or more per ton.

Certain other advantages may and do belong to the Tamar Mine which we have not, such as landing and shipping the ores and materials to and from the mine direct, without any land carriage. These are some of the many elements necessary to form an estimate of the relative cost of mines, which Mr. Ennor has overlooked. That he should have advised his friends without taking these into account, and disappointed them, is natural and characteristic of him, but cannot affect the mine, or its management. There are, however, other elements connected with these mines which he seems equally ignorant of. Our returns are great and increasing, and now that our late heavy expenditure in erecting machinery, laying out floors, and bringing dressing water to it, is nearly finished, they will be considerably increased, with little, if any, additional cost. So much for Mr. Ennor and his assertions.

To the shareholders I would here give a short résumé of what we have done in the last three years; it must interest them, and give them a clear insight into the value of their property. A new engine-shaft, heavily timbered, has been sunk 85 fms. deep, or 60 fms. below adit. The lodes are cut from it by two cross-cuts, each 50 fms. long, in the 20 and 40 fm. levels below adit, and driven upon and laid open 130 fms. long in the higher, and 60 fms. in the lower level, with all necessary winzes, &c.

A new 70-in. pumping-engine, with 15-in. pitwork, and two 22-in. winding and crushing-engines, have been erected, and are now in most efficient working order. A new and spacious dressing-floor has also been laid out, and is now, after considerable but unavoidable delay, amply supplied with water. It is this want of water which has alone prevented us from increasing our returns for the last six months, besides entailing the cost of an extra engine, to pump water to our old floors. Both these evils are now removed, and, as I have already observed, we are now in a position to reap the full benefit of our vast outlay, and, with our present plant and arrangements, to greatly increase our returns.

I hope, after this statement, that even Mr. Ennor's friends will cease to despise; and I assure them that, whether he favours us with an omission from his future notices or not, the value of the mine will not be in the least affected thereby.

In conclusion, I must deny Mr. Ennor's right to criticise my conduct, or the mine, even if he had the qualifications for the task, which I maintain he has not.

JAMES HAMPTON.

THE GORN LEAD MINE, AND ITS MANAGEMENT.

SIR.—It is a source of pleasure to me to know that there is at last a chance of the Gorn Mine being proved in depth, the directors having now adopted the plan laid down for its working as proposed in the first instance, and for the carrying out of which the present company was formed—viz., sinking to a depth of 30 fms. below the mark, in place of which hitherto the shareholders' money has been spent in useless cross-cuts, in testing that which had been already done; and my opinion is, if any body of shareholders had a just cause to be dissatisfied with the management, the shareholders of this mine had every reason. Indeed, all acquainted with the working of the mine concur with me that no worse management could well be conceived; however, I am glad to notice that a change has really taken place, and that the shaft in the adit is being sunk to test the lode at a greater depth. The indications of which have already given the best proofs of the correctness of my former statements, good ore being now produced. Being fully persuaded had this course been adopted in the first instance this undertaking would have been attended with profitable results, and further considering that my experience (having had the management of the Gorn Mine for nine years) justifies the assertion, strengthened as it has been with the opinion of Capt. Matthew Francis, I shall, therefore, be glad to see Capt. Pierce's reports inserted in your valuable Journal.

THOS. OWEN (late manager).

Lanercost Mine, Talybont, March 8.

DEVON AND COURTESY MINE, AND ITS MANAGEMENT.

SIR.—The 80 end west was reported, in the *Mining Journal* last week, to be producing a little ore, from which I infer it was worth but little, if anything. That end must be now a considerable distance west of the engine-shaft, and, consequently, close to the disordered channel of ground, in which the lodes are also disordered and worthless, and, therefore, nothing of importance can be reasonably expected in that direction. The pitch in the back of the 90 was again reported to be worth 30*l.* per fathom, but what tribute is paid for raising the ore we are not told; a very high figure, no doubt, consequent from mismanagement, for want of an efficient agent to conduct the operations of the mine, whilst he is brought, I am credibly informed, to a ruinous state. The operations are now, and have been for some time past, confined to the driving of the 80 end, and the pitch above referred to; nevertheless 5*l.* calls have to be made to pay the cost, without the least possible chance of improvement to repay the outlay. The 90 is so poor that it would not pay for working under any circumstances; and if it were desired to make a further trial, a new shaft would be indispensable, which I am persuaded no one would advise. A pitch on the north lode is also "worth 30*l.* per fm.," this, of course, is a separate thing. It would be interesting to know that this discovery was in new ground, instead of being in the old workings; but, unfortunately, a shallow adit level was driven a long time ago, from west to east, under the ore, and beyond it. A shaft also was sunk to communicate with the level on the east side of the ore, and of course the ore is on the west side, in the direction of the mouth of the level. The lode was laid open in driving the level below, and a great portion of it worked away above the level, therefore the discovery is not at all important; in fact, it does not enhance the value of the mine, because the end of the ore is seen. The only opinion is that the present workings must cease early; and the only chance of having a paying mine is in the western ground, which is maintained by all practical miners in the neighbourhood against that of the agent, who condemned it "for the want of practical experience as a miner," and drew up the plan, and sold the materials. The management, too, should be more spiritfully conducted.

A SHAREHOLDER.

PENNANCE CONSOLS, AND ITS MANAGEMENT.

SIR.—A meeting of the shareholders in this company was held some two or three weeks since, at the offices of Captain Burgen, Gracechurch-street, for the purpose of considering the propriety of reforming its constitution, and working the mine on the Cost-book system. The company was originally projected in the autumn of last year, and was to be conducted on the "Scrip Cost-book Principle," the shareholders being liable only for the amount of their shares paid up. Capt. Burgen acknowledges that in the original license there was no clause as to any particular mode of managing its affairs, but that the trustees had subsequently come to the determination of not allowing any operations to be carried on, unless under the strictly cost-book rules, which would guarantee the discharge of all the liabilities incurred on account of the company, as all the shareholders would be registered, which in the scrip system is not the case. This may be all very well, but what is to be said to those parties who purchased scrip with a definite understanding that their liability was to be limited. I do not find fault with Capt. Burgen and his friends doing the best they can to secure their own interests, but I must protest against their paying no regard to the interests of others interested in the question. The projectors of the Pennance Consols adventure entered into a specific contract with those who took up their scrip, which they ought not lightly to set aside. If, at the eleventh hour, they find themselves not in a position to fulfil their engagements, I am of opinion that a compromise should be effected with those who have no disposition to undertake *soulied* liability under the cost-book for the limited liability guaranteed to them at the commencement. It is true that the resolutions proposed at the meeting were carried, because Capt. Burgen held the great proportion of the company's scrip, and was, therefore, in a position to disregard the protest of those who held scrip for which they had paid in hard cash, whose claims were consequently the more imperative. Though, under the circumstances, Capt. Burgen has been enabled to carry his point, I decidedly think he is morally bound to devise some plan to satisfy the claims of the scripholders under the late company.—*City*, March 13.

R. G. S.

MINING IN PORTUGAL—THE LUSITANIAN MINES.

SIR.—My last cause of complaint against the parties into whose care the management of the mines of Palhal and Carvalhal, in Portugal, are entrusted, may be seen in the *Mining Journal*, page 58, for Jan. 26, in the present year. My complaint now is of another nature, and is as follows:—Capt. Thomas Chegwin is too fond of letting the stopping of the backs on the rich courses of ore in the Mine of Palhal at so much per fathom, as it is well known that the miners care more for fathoms and feet in such cases than the saving of ores, particularly when in a mine like the Palhal, where the miners are only visited by the captain on measuring days (once in a fortnight); consequently, when they have stalls, and when the ores fall down in large lumps, the miners find it gives them less trouble to bury the large stones of ores than to break them into small pieces, and send them to surface; therefore, in the few stalls now in the Mine of Palhal, their stall is full of rich ores, and there have been left in places, sticking or adhering to the walls, veins of rich ores, from 4 to 6 in. thick, which are lost, and lost to the company.

Again, it may be remembered that in Sept., 1854, the Mine of Palhal was said to be poor by some of the parties who now govern it in that mine, but it was because they knew nothing of its nature. The footwall of the lode in that mine is subject to protruberances of a greater or less extent, called by the Portuguese "bladders," which very much resemble a bladder in the skin, caused by a gall from a bad fitting shoe, &c. Well, Sir, as soon as that is the case, and Capt. Chegwin meets with one of the bladders in the wall, he stops that part of the works, and puts the men on the lode where the bladder is not to be seen; consequently, it might be justly said that he is digging out the eyes of the mine, and making no discoveries; while a third part of the ores the miners break are lost, and by the present system of working a great injustice is done both to the mine and owners.

Besides the neglect of duty alluded to, after heavy falls of rain before Jan. 21, it began to rain again on that day, and continued without the least cessation, so that the waters in the River Caima began to increase and encroach beyond its accustomed boundary, giving overflows of overflowing its banks, and thereby endangering the rich silver-lead and copper ores, which had been carelessly heaped upon the eastern bank; when, besides the warning the waters were giving, several of the native workmen went to Capt. Chegwin, and told him what the consequence would be; but he paid no attention to them or their warnings, till on Thursday, the 28th, the waters came, and took away about 500 quintals of rich silver-lead and copper ores, in all probability worth nearly 500*l.*, besides filling the eastern part of the mine with water, and hindering the men for many days. Even the filling of the mine was caused by carelessness. The Carvalhal Mine now has three adits in the course of driving, but they are most improperly worked, by very inefficient hands. The prospects are good, but lost to the company by not being judiciously developed. I believe the Carvalhal

Mine is capable of yielding thousands of tons of ores, and, comparatively speaking, for a very small capital; but up to the present time the money has been, and still is, badly spent there, as well as in the Palhal Mine.

About the engine wheel at the Palhal Mine, I have only to add that the works necessary for its erection are a great deal further from being completed now than before anything was done towards it—that is, provided it was to be erected in its proper place, or where Johns had ordained it to be. Now, the company has already been put to a needless purchase, and three times the expense for its erection will yet have to be incurred than there was need for in the place alluded to; besides its interference with the only convenient place they have in the mine for dressing-floors, and instead of having water running over their floors, they are obliged to hand-pump it. What stupidity! They now intend opening a level for the rods from the wheel to the shaft, and fix the bob underground. What time and expense will it yet take? and you have daily 40 men employed pumping the water from the mine, and not 30, as was said in the last report. I would have you yet to carefully consider and calculate before doing any more in the present site.

As regards the Aljustrel, nothing has yet been done for the large sum expended in that place, and you were told all you now know two years since. My advice is, if you do not intend to erect your steam-engine, discharge your men, and save your money, by abandoning the mine, for I declare that the present proceedings are of no avail.—*March 3.*

ALVARO DASILVEIRA PINTO.

DING DONG MINE.

SIR.—Considering the antiquity of this mine, and the large amount of dividends it has yielded to the shareholders, it seems remarkable that so little has been said about it in your Journal. Until of late, even the name, I believe, did not appear in your List. This silence may fairly be attributed to the fact that the shareholders were few in number, rich in purse, and liked the dividends too well to invite other people to come in to share with them. I am not aware that the dividends have been so large at one time, or in one year, as in some mines that might be named; but the same having extended over hundreds of years, the aggregate thereof probably equals the best in the country. The last dividend was 2352*l.*, on three months' tin, being 70*l.* per 1,672 share. The tin sold in the last quarter realised 4832*l.* 16*l.*, while the total expenditure was 2391*l.* 2*l.* 6*l.* only. Of late this mine has come a little more under the notice of capitalists, who are glad to purchase shares at the current price, which is considered their real value, and will probably soon range considerably higher. A majority of the shares are held, I find, by the rich firm of Bolitho and Sons, of Chydour, tin smelters; and Mr. T. S. Bolitho, of that firm, is the

It is senseless. Whip me those mineral misers, O great Governor of Nature! "An Old Subscribers," in discussing this grievance, has done the state some service.

SAN FERNANDO MINING COMPANY (TRANSLATION).—Senor Paulino Serrano corrects in some measure *Messieurs les Administrateurs* of the above company for figuring returns a little too highly. I should have said the letter contains rather a something between a correction for an error, and a suggestion not to commit one. At all events, it is a feather flushed to show which way the wind blows; and for the life of me, sharp as I am, I cannot see at this moment fairer mining prospects and fairer mining men than those who move to Mammon's measure in my home speculation. I happened to be absorbing a little "eye-water," with two Spanish gnomes, last night, and one of them—of a very hooked countenance indeed—assured me that the present genius of Spain has less mining in him than a mouse. "On the honour of a demon," he added, in a friendly colloquial manner, while he swayed himself leisurely to and fro on his hump, "things are very delusive with us now-a-days; we *hear* great things and *see* small ones." People, after promising much, will give but little.—*Aviendo pre-godido sino, vendrándose.*" No place like home, thought I, and reposed on the conviction.—March 12.

THE COST-BOOK SYSTEM, AND ITS ELUCIDATORS.

Sir,—I have been trying, for the last 48 hours, to make out what your correspondent on the Joint Stock Companies Act intends, but in vain. In his letter of Feb. 29 he speaks of the Cost-book System as perfection itself. "Our excellent principle" is blameless, but "If adventurers admit of laxity in their affairs, they must abide the consequences." In the very same breath, he takes special pains to expose what he considers its imperfections. "It requires a limited liability." Why, this is the very essence of the system. You pay back for all costs, therefore no liability can exist; without cash you cannot go on; the moment you depart from this you cease to be governed by the Cost-book Principle. "Stamping deeds, to prevent much of the abuse in the assignment of shares." What abuse? I buy shares through my broker, in expectation of a rise, and avail myself of the earliest opportunity of making a profit. The seller knows not to whom he sells, and cares not, having got his money. Why should he care to know, having disposed of his share, in a property upon which no liability ever did or could exist, under the Cost-book Principle. "Small fees for registering the shares after payment of calls, and for giving extracts therefrom." Ex-tracts from what—the calls? A "small fee" to get a discount? Until I came to this I really thought your correspondent was writing seriously, although under a delusion. "A facile arrangement for winding-up the concern, by a majority of three-fourths," and, as he suggests in a subsequent letter, "each share to be entitled to a vote," and the shareholders generally to be governed by the majority of votes at the bi-monthly meeting." A happy idea for the mineral lord, who, finding he has a valuable property, has only to get a few friends in his master by surprise at one of the account meetings, and so confiscate the property of the absentees. Your correspondent surely intended to have written, "A *facile arrangement for winding-up.*" "Heavy penalties for violating the cost-book rules, and, above, I am, it will be seen, parison with any principle," &c. Why, the Cost-book Principle, being to pay cash for all you receive, will bear comparison as it stands. So long as you hold cash in hand you go on. So soon as that is gone, you consult with your co-adventurers. "Now, shall we go further or not?" those who dissent have the privilege of throwing up their shares, and so terminate their risk. If your correspondent can improve on this, he may be permitted to point to all mining men, and exultingly exclaim, look at that, and double—

YOUNG VEGETABLES.

SUGGESTED MONSTER LODGING-HOUSE—A WORD TO THE PROPRIETORS OF THE GREAT IRON SHIP.

Sir,—As the pages of your Journal are always open to subjects of public interest, you can, perhaps, spare a small space on a subject in which the pecuniary welfare of a number of worthy individuals is deeply concerned,—viz., the great iron ship building in the yard of Scott Russell and Co.

The Pyramids of Egypt, in their way, are a wonder; the Colossus of Rhodes was a wonder, and with these many other ancient wonders might be mentioned; in modern days one may allude to the Thames Tunnel, to the Atmospheric Railway (that was), and to certain wild schemes, some of which have passed away as ruinously in their consequences as the sad and wicked folly of the late masquerade at Covent Garden Theatre. I have not time, neither can you allow me space, to moralise on these subjects; my object is, if possible, to induce the unfortunate shareholders in this monstrous project, the great ship, to consider whether, before they proceed to the necessary expenses of launching and fitting up this great modern ark (and I promise the lady and gentlemen shareholders that the bill for these charges will be no small one), it would not be worth while to *calculate* (using an expressive Yankee word) whether the ship could not be applied to a more useful and remunerative purpose, by converting it into a great dwelling-house for all the shipwrights and labourers employed on the river side, and to let the monster stand where it is for this purpose.

Here would be cheap, wholesome, fire-proof and lightning-proof residences for from 8000 to 10,000 human beings, easily accessible by land and by water for this number of labourers, and where all the noble philanthropic principles of the present age—public reading-rooms and libraries, schools, places for religious worship, baths, laundries, &c.—may all be brought into operation most advantageously. Instead of completing the bow and stern of ship form, let successive tiers of covered inclined planes, one above the other, at each end be formed, as means of access and egress, with plenty of shops for the retail of various articles in daily use on each side of the roads; hire or buy the surrounding ground as a place of exercise and enjoyment for the women and children; establish a few river steamers to ply to and fro to carry the workmen to and from the building yards on each side of the river; and with various details which the judgment of a committee of the shareholders would establish, the great ship might really become an event worthy of the reign of our gracious Queen, whose delight is to promote the happiness and welfare of her subjects, and we should then have a wonder in the world, which good men might delight to contemplate, and which would in all probability return a rich harvest to the promoters, more certain, more profitable, and more honourable to our country and to themselves, than a huge monstrous ship can be, which from its size can go into no dock now existing, which can hardly enter any known navigable river with safety, or approach even the naked shores of many continents.

I am not a shareholder, I have no personal interest in the matter, beyond an earnest desire for the welfare of our laborious and well-deserving workmen; and though some may say, why endeavour to spoil the fun and excitement of the great ship launch, I wish to see the pockets of the promoters from a ruinous drain upon them, if the monster is prepared to be launched as proposed.

AN OBSERVER.

Meetings of Mining Companies.

CWMDYLE ROCK MINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of shareholders was held, on Wednesday, at the Burlington Lecture Hall, Saville-row, Burlington-gardens,

Mr. B. L. SOWELL in the chair.

Mr. E. H. CURTIS (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed.

The following statement of accounts, from Sept. 30, 1855, to Feb. 29, 1856, was then submitted:—

To balance.....	£62 8 11
Produce of mine.....	240 19 9
Calls received.....	845 4 3
Loans.....	272 5 3 = £1421 18 2
By mine cost and merchants' bills.....	769 10 1
Office expenses, &c.....	75 6 9
Travelling expenses, &c.....	37 6 0
Loans repaid.....	514 12 4
Interest account balance.....	1 4 7
John Hawke.....	7 0 0
Newton, Keats, and Co., balance.....	1 11 11 = 1406 11 8
Balance in favour of company.....	£15 6 6

The CHAIRMAN said, if there were any item that required explanation he should be happy to give it, or the shareholders might like to look over the accounts.

Mr. JACKSON enquired whether the accounts extended over five months?

The CHAIRMAN replied in the affirmative; they commenced from September, and ended February 29. The next subject he had to bring before them was the number who had paid up the calls, and he was sorry to say that nearly one-fifth were defaulter, 1212 were unpaid, and 5174 had responded to the call; and he did not see any alternative but to forfeit the shares of those in arrear; at the same time, it should be distinctly understood that the forfeiture would not release them from liabilities to the present period, as that was only fair to those who had paid. He did not wish to be harsh, but there must be justice on all sides. The Chairman then read a list of the defaulter; he observed that some gentlemen were frequently anxious for a large call, and yet they had always the greatest difficulty to make them pay. It might be remembered, that at a former meeting one of them offered to give a cheque, by way of loan, for 50/-, to prevent a call, which they never saw, and the directors were left in the lurch, and had to pay the additional 50/-.

Mr. DELAMARE said, before they considered the forfeiture of the shares, he would move that the account be received and adopted. The resolution was seconded, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then moved that the shares of all in arrear of call be forfeited, but that they are responsible for their portion of the liabilities up to the present time.

Mr. CHAFFELL seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN observed that it was necessary to adopt these stringent measures, as to show how the board were situated, he would merely remark that they got the calls in at 30/- or 2/- at a time, when bills were coming in for 30/- or 40/- If the call to be proposed, and those in arrear, were paid up, it would be sufficient to discharge all liabilities, and those shareholders who might think fit could at once retire, as by so doing they would be released from all further responsibility. Capt. Colliver had represented to the committee that the debts were about 200/-, but when they advertised they found them to be 800/- Capt. Colliver had threatened them with Chancery proceedings; but if he should adopt that course, he did not think he could go into Court with very clean hands; a week before he resigned his sent in a claim for 110/-, and a week after for nearly 300/-, and they had both the accounts in writing. With regard, also, to the claim of Jas. Coliver, his cousin, who was now taking proceedings against the company for nearly 35/-, the amounts composing it were regularly entered in the cost sheets, and it seemed rather strange that a labouring man, receiving 2/- a week, could give credit to that amount. The pressing claims were the tradesmen's; some of them had taken law proceedings; and if all the shareholders had paid their fair quota, the debts might have been discharged. So far as he was concerned, he was determined to protect all; and those that could pay must be made to pay. The next question was as to the call to be made; the liabilities, in round numbers, would require about 5/- per share. They could not sell the mine without the consent of Sir Ed. Williams Bulkeley, who would not grant another lease under a rental of 50/- a year. If they wound up, the expenses would be at least 100/- per cent upon their liabilities; he should, therefore, advise them to avoid that by all means. As he had before observed, the present liabilities were about 5/- per share, and as they had a large quantity of ore on the mine, he hoped it would be sufficient to carry it on, as they had stopped all mining operations, confining the work merely to dressing the ore, so that the present expenses were only about 10/- per week. As a proof of the way they had been used, a small quantity of ore was recently sent to Liverpool, when it was found that 9 tons 16 cwt., dressed by Capt. Colliver, yielded only 11, 12s. 6d. per ton; whilst 13 tons 17 cwt., dressed by John Hawke, sold for 47. 3s. 6d. per ton. (Hear.) Yet Capt. Colliver had the effrontery to write to Mr. Braithwaite, stating that Hawke was washing away the ore. Since the sale referred to they had 20 tons

dressed, which, by assay, was returned at 47. 3s. 6d. per ton; he did not, therefore, think they would consider their prospects very discouraging. A most extraordinary proceeding took place at the mine last week. The men, on going to their work as usual, on Monday morning, were surprised to find that the shafts had been stopped up with stones, and an iron wedge driven into one of the water-wheels, so that when they started it to work it was smashed; the handles of the shovels were broken, and the oil cans thrown away. The master had been placed in the hands of the police, as it was evident the wedge had been driven in by an engineer, but active proceedings would not be taken during the pending of an action brought against the company.

A SHAREHOLDER wished to know the cost of repairing the damage so maliciously inflicted?—THE CHAIRMAN replied about 600. The question was, whether they should go on or wind up?

Mr. HUGHES considered it would cost a great deal more to wind up than to go on for a considerable period.

The CHAIRMAN : As a proof that we are not in a very bad state, we have had four offers to take the property off our hands.

Mr. JACKSON wished to know how long it would be before they were again in working order?

The CHAIRMAN said they had not altogether stopped, as one wheel was uninjured, and but for the damage they would have been in full operation at the present time. He did not think it would take long to repair the wheel. The course he should wish the shareholders to pursue, was for those who wished to retire to intimate it at once, so that the committee might know who were desirous of going on.

Mr. VINEER considered that a very fair offer, as it did not compel them to come to an immediate decision.

Mr. BLACKHEAD said, to bring the question to an issue, he would move that a call of 5/- per share be made.—Mr. Fox seconded the resolution.

Mr. JACKSON suggested that the call be 2s. 6d.

The CHAIRMAN said it was no use going on with a log round their neck; by making the call 5/-, they could send a circular round, informing those parties desirous of retiring that they could do so by paying the call, and thus discharge themselves from all future liability. They could first make the call, and afterwards decide the time it should be paid. The Chairman then put the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. DELAMARE was of the opinion that the mine would pay, and that no further call would be required; still they intended to give their best consideration to whether it would be desirable to accept any of the offers made, some being to work it on tribute.

The CHAIRMAN was of opinion that certain parties had been making great improvements, and then, hoping to tire out the shareholders, obtain the property.

Mr. HUGHES proposed that the call should be paid by two instalments—2s. 6d. in a fortnight, and 2s. 6d. a month afterwards.

Mr. VINEER wished to know whether that would answer the purposes of the committee?—THE CHAIRMAN replied, if it were paid punctually it would do, and he sincerely hoped they would never ask them for another penny; indeed, this call pressed very heavily on him, as he had over 2000/- to contribute towards it.

Mr. HUGHES then moved, and Mr. JACKSON seconded, the following resolution:—

"That the call of 5/- be paid, by two instalments—the first 2s. 6d. in a fortnight, and the second 2s. 6d. in six weeks from this date."—Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in answer to a question, said the present workings were carried on at a profit.

Mr. FOX proposed, and Mr. HARLEY seconded, a resolution that the committee of management be re-elected, which was carried unanimously, with applause.

A SHAREHOLDER wished to know what were the duties of the committee?

The CHAIRMAN said, to attend every morning to correspondence, to advance money out of their own pockets for the general benefit of the shareholders, and to receive plenty of abuse. (Hear.)

Mr. HUGHES also wished to know what were the salaries they received?

The CHAIRMAN : That is answered in one word—"Nothing."

Mr. HUGHES : Then the least we can do is to propose that the best thanks of the shareholders be given to the Chairman, and other members of the committee, for the manner in which they conduct the affairs of the company. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in returning thanks, trusted they would punctually respond to the call, and thus give them their support, as he still hoped to meet them under very different circumstances, to inform them that they would be rewarded for their patience and perseverance. (Hear.)—The proceedings then terminated.

ROYAL SANTIAGO MINING COMPANY.

The adjourned meeting was held at the offices of the company, New Broad-street, on the 7th inst., Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, jun., in the chair.

Mr. DOCKEY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said it was his duty to mention that since the last meeting Mr. Oliver had retired from the direction. He had no further remarks to make at present, but to ask Mr. Cope to place the report of the committee formally before the meeting; and as it had been in their hands several days, he supposed they might take it as read.

The report, from which the following is condensed, signed by Francis Cope, William Lemon Oliver, and C. Bourdillon, stated—That, in compliance with the desire of the general meeting of shareholders held on Jan. 23, they have met several times to investigate the affairs of the company, and beg to offer the following remarks, with a view to the better working of the concern. Many shareholders scarcely knowing the extent of the property, we think it right to give a sketch of it. We hold 24 per centinias, of about 100 or 200 yards each, equal to 400,000 square yards, or upwards of 100 English acres; a part of this immediately adjoins the Cobre Mine, perhaps the richest copper mine in the world; and their geological features generally are precisely similar. Only 3 of these 24 per centinias are now fully worked, whilst two of them, known as "La Paz" and "Robertson," immediately join that portion of the Cobre Mine which contains their great champion lode, and from which much of their riches have been raised, and which we know intersects those portions of our property. Having given this brief description of the property, we will remark on the working, and on this point can scarcely find words to express our surprise at the unmining-like manner in which the operations have been conducted in Cuba. It seems to have been the rule to suspend works as soon as they were productive, and systematically to force on levels which yielded nothing. In this way much of the heavy loss of the last 12 months has arisen, although even that will hardly account for the prodigious expenditure there. The report, after enumerating several instances of bad working, adds—In fact, all the operations of the principal mining captain seem so unfortunate, and so little to the general interests of the undertaking, that we cannot hesitate to recommend his removal. We think, from the correspondence we have seen, that the superintendent may safely be entrusted to Mr. Morris; and we suggest that he be furnished with full authority over the staff. We also find the cost of dressing the ore, and the number of hands employed on this work, quite out of proportion to the quantity raised. We find the precipitate works pay well, yielding a profit of upwards of 2000/- per annum. The report, after offering a few suggestions respecting the future course of working, continues—The bad local management has absorbed all the money raised by the two calls last year, as well as the produce of the mine; leaving still a balance of about 1800/-, up to the end of this month, against us; and we advise that a call of 1/- per share be made, to pay off this liability, and to provide the funds for working the property energetically, though economically. Our attention has also been directed to the expenses of the London management, and this we think may be curtailed. We recommend that the house leased to the company be let off in offices, merely retaining the first-floor for the purposes of the concern; this will, we think, leave us rent-free. After other suggestions upon this point the report says—We must press our best efforts to Mr. John Taylor, for the courteous manner in which he has met us, and afforded every information; and to Mr. Docke (the secretary), for the zeal with which he has answered all our enquiries, and we feel bound to say that the manner in which the books and correspondence are kept meets our approval. Although reports such as the present are generally discouraging, and doubtless ours may be considered so in part, and although we feel disappointment and regret at the past, yet we have no fear for the future. We believe that we have a property which, with energy and skill, will yet rank high as a permanent dividend-paying mine. We cannot but remember that this is undertaken, on an outlay of 35,000/-, from shallow levels, returned 231,000/- in dividends; and, although large sums have been sunk without return, the mines are still almost as unworked—the greatest depth being only 70 fms. below the adit, and that but at the shaft; that the ground between Taylor's and Discovery shafts, from which we are led to expect much, is scarcely touched; and when we see Cobre, in the same formation, and within half a mile of us, paying 60,000/- last year in dividends, we think we should be timid adventurers, indeed if we held out any but the most sanguine and flattering prospects for the future.

Mr. SOWELL said he would move that the report be received *in toto*.

The CHAIRMAN rather hoped some other gentleman would have been in attendance to have criticised the report; but he must protest against portions of it that related to parties who were not present, and in doing so it should be in the best possible spirit, his desire being to place the concern in its true character, instead of concealing any faults. Like some other similar companies, unfortunately he had conceived, in this instance, to enter upon the duties when the concern was unprofitable. He had nothing to do with the formation of the company, but were invited, by Alderman Thompson and Baron Goldsmith, to take part in the management, and driven and driven hard to put it in a proper position, but unfortunately, through the distance, there were difficulties insuperable in mines in a similar situation, as all they could do was to give directions to the agents out there; and when there were riches and abundance, a vast amount of mismanagement could be looked over: that was not the case with a poor mine. In the report, certain reflections were made upon the managers out there, which were, to a certain extent, just; but as he had stated at a previous meeting, the captain was affected with an illness peculiar to the district, and the only thing he had been able to do was to write the monthly report, and he (the Chairman), after minutely detailing the present and proposed future operations, said the next question would be the subject of the call.

A PROPRIETOR wished to know whether a call of 1/- would be sufficient, or whether it would not be preferable to call up a larger amount at once?

The CHAIRMAN replied that the call of 1/- would yield 7000/-, which would be sufficient to extend the trials and discharge the liabilities; and although they must not understand it to be the final call, the board had determined never to make another without consulting the shareholders. (Cheers.)

Mr. Cope said, the only fault found with the captain was error in judgment. When he found a level yielding a fair return, he left it, and went on week after week with others producing nothing. He did not think illness fully accounted for the neglect, as in six months they had sunk 1 fm. 6 in., and he (Mr. Cope) hoped the directors would send out a competent person. The saving proposed in London was a mere bagatelle, but he believed the expenses in Cuba might be reduced one-half; and in a country producing such results, he asked the shareholders to come forward and support the directors. (Hear.)

Mr. LEMON OLIVER read extracts from a letter he had just received from Cuba, and which stated that in the Santiago Mines they had a fortune, if properly worked, and expressing surprise that they were not in a better state, which he accounted for by undue influences in the island, as he believed there were twenty persons in Cuba who were ready to take it up directly, if the present company should give up. (

state of preparation, and arrived at that desirable point—the attainment of a dividend, they had gained ample experience as to the quality of their iron, and had also arrived at the conclusion that a very moderate increase of production would render the returns satisfactory. As to the reason why they had not succeeded so largely in the make of iron as could be wished, it was found in the misconduct of one of their officers, and the interference of the Government with their fuel supplies. Through the insatiation of that officer they had unfortunately suffered, by his allowing the blast furnace to fall into an unproductive state, for which breach of duty Mr. Beaumont had relieved him of his post, an event which occurred shortly after they had taken possession of the works. The other cause had been fully stated in the report. He would, however, remark that the Government demands upon the jungles will only be of a temporary character, inasmuch as the requirements for the bridges will come to an end. So long as the company were deprived of the exclusive use of the jungles, they would have to look to a more distant source of supply; but he was happy to say that the works at Porto Novo would be found independent by-and-bye of the Government, as soon as the new works were established. In order that the shareholders might have a clear idea of the position of their establishments, the directors had prepared a map, and appended it to the report. From this it would be seen that the sites selected for their new works at Neringiperry and Trinomalee were contiguous to the Madras Railway, which will pass through the very heart of their district, and afford a continual outlet for the company's manufactures to the coast at either end of the line. The attention of the directors had been directed to these two spots, as surrounded by abundant supplies of ore and fuel; and when the blast engines, which had cost from 17,000 or 18,000 each, and would absorb something like the same amount to complete them, were fully established, *in situ*, they would be enabled each to turn out about 2000 tons charcoal pig-iron per annum; and looking at the ascertained price of production, they could entertain no doubt but that they should be able to make a considerable profit. The iron could also be sent down by basket boats to Porto Novo. The Madras Railway will require a large supply of iron, and the company had ready means of executing their orders and other works of a public character. He (the Chairman) then entered at length into the cost of production and conveyance, and showed the large margin which would be left for profit when the means of increased production were in active operation, the charge of their fixed establishments amounting to no less than 37,442, which would not, however, increase in any way with enhanced production, besides large sums paid to Government, and charged to produce. For depreciation of plant and machinery they had written off 10 per cent. per annum, for the short time they had been in operation in the large sum of 1855. 2s. In reference to the general accounts, the only items requiring explanation were those of sundry creditors, 30,082. 5s. 3d.; and sundry debtors, 43,359. 4s. The explanation is this—they had to pay a considerable sum of money for the valuation, which has not yet been paid (though it was in hand), in consequence of the death of Mr. Conolly, one of the partners of the old company. They had now to deal with his executors, his power of attorney having been annulled by his decease. The old company appeared as a creditor to the amount of 29,700/- in the London books, the rest was in India. The War Department was indebted for pig-iron to the amount of 14,000/-, which had been taken on trial. They were as satisfied with the iron as with that of the Acadian Company, but the directors had not deemed it safe, owing to the distance of India from this country, to enter into a contract with the Government, not knowing what arrangements might be made on the other side by Mr. Beaumont. It would be seen that the preliminary expenses only amounted to £311. 15s. 7d. This included the charges attendant on a long series of negotiations, obtaining the charter, and legal expenses extending over a considerable period. The account of profit and loss from the commencement to December, 1855, showed a net expenditure of only 3922. 18s. 9d., for two years. There was only one point more which (the Chairman) need notice. Testimony had been borne in various forms to the excellence of their iron, and in confirmation of this important fact, extracts were read from a letter from the Military Board at Madras to the Military Board at Bombay, reporting on skids, pipes, railings, iron, &c., in which they were spoken of in the highest terms. A letter was also read from the superintendent of the Madras Railway in the carriage department, of an equally satisfactory character. The chairs supplied to the Madras Railway had been pronounced superior in quality and cheaper in price than some of those obtained from this country. The establishment of the Water Works at Bombay would open a field for large contracts for the supply of pipes, which would be very considerable; 15,000 tons alone would be required for the main, and no house in a population of 670,000 tons would be more than 100 yards from a source of supply; and when the court of directors were in a position to receive tenders, he hoped they would be ready to meet them. Thenceforth they might reasonably hope for a regular market for their manufactured iron. —The CHAIRMAN concluded by moving the adoption of the report, which having been seconded—

Mr. CUMBERLAND had heard with satisfaction the report and accounts, and was glad to know that they had got an efficient establishment; but they had not been furnished with any particulars as to the number of persons employed. He could not understand how it happened that they were not in a position to produce so large a supply as the old company. If he recollects rightly, Mr. Norton had stated that they had an immense supply of fuel, and great facilities for raising ore, yet it appeared that they had only sold two little lots. The previous reports spoke of the unlimited supply of fuel, and it would be satisfactory to the shareholders to know what they were doing. They ought to have some account of the number of tons of chairs, rails, and bars, and the supply of stock should appear in some shape or other. He was usually what was termed a firm holder, and did not part with his shares when he saw any chance of their paying dividends. Of this company and its directors he entertained a very high opinion, but he could not help thinking there was a want of energy somewhere. The Chairman had clearly shown how they could dispose of the iron when they got it.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said that they felt indebted to the honourable proprietor for the manner in which he had brought the matter before them. There had been 2150 tons of iron manufactured, and it would have been much larger but for the gross neglect of their European servant, above alluded to. Then there was the withdrawal of the supply of fuel at Porto Novo, but there would now be no further difficulty at that point. Their manufacture of iron had been hitherto of an experimental character. He had before him a mass of accounts connected with the company's affairs, which they only received some three weeks since, owing to the breaking down of one of the Peninsular and Oriental steamers. From these, it would be seen that they had 1180 tons of pig-iron, valued at 51. 10s. per ton; there was a small quantity at Bombay, and 600 tons at Porto Novo. The shareholders would see that all the information required was ready, and lying on the table.

Mr. CUMBERLAND would be sorry to go further into the matter after the explanation given, only he had thought there was a want of energy somewhere.

Mr. WALKER observed, in reference to the fuel, that the quantity required by the Government for burning the bricks, lime, &c., was estimated at 1800 tons of wood, and 2800 tons of charcoal, which was equal to half a blast-furnace per annum.

Mr. CAZENOV was satisfied with what had been done, and their future prospects. They availed themselves of the gratuitous services of the board of directors, who have at least a claim to their entire confidence.

The reports and accounts, on the motion of the Chairman, were then received and adopted; and, after a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors, the meeting separated.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL SMELTING AND REDUCTION CO.

An extraordinary general meeting was held at the offices of the company, Old Jewry, on Thursday, Mr. Jas. GARRARD in the chair.

Mr. WALFORD, the secretary, read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said, no doubt they were all aware what took place at the last meeting, when a proposal was made that they should wind up, by the shareholders giving up their shares, upon condition that the directors should exonerate them from all present and future liabilities. The meeting now convened was to take that proposal into special consideration; but since they had made it, they had felt some little disagreement upon the subject, in case they should dispose of the works, and get a small profit for themselves, such as 6d. per share; so that if the shareholders will contribute towards paying the rent, they might step in and take the chance of winning. The prospect of winning was so trivial, that it was for them to determine. Suppose the parties should take the premises at Millwall, and pay the 3000/- and suspending, so that they got rid of the premises at Tamar without much further delay, then they might make a profit of 6d. per share; but supposing they did not dispose of the premises at Millwall, and Tamar, then the directors would not get their last dividend of 6d. per share, which had already been paid to every other shareholder. (He (the Chairman) considered it impossible to close the company without some measure of this sort, and until the termination of the leases, there would always be expenses.) It would take only half a penny per share to pay the directors their 2s., and they were willing to carry out the proposition in the agreement, but he had made these observations in order that no one might say they were taken by surprise. (He (the Chairman) was the holder of 5000 shares, and he should be glad to give them up, and allow any other shareholder to take his place.

Mr. LAWRENCE could not imagine that there could be two opinions upon the subject. If the directors made a profit of 6d. per share, he should be extremely glad to hear it. He would be the first to sign the agreement, and give up his shares. It was to be wished that the meeting had been more numerous; but parties could be applied to individually, and no doubt all would agree with him; that they were indebted to the directors for the course they had taken.

A PROPRIETOR wished to know what course would be adopted in the event of their not being unanimous?

The CHAIRMAN said that any gentleman who did not take one alternative must take the other; and it was not likely any party would enter into law proceedings for 4/- or 5/-, which would be the utmost. If they should make the 6d. per share.

Mr. CHAS. BURZ, jun., said he stood in a double position—he held shares of his own, and others as the assignee of Mr. Stansby, and by a recent award in the Court of Exchequer, was likely to hold a great many more. The committee of investigation entered into a sort of agreement 12 months ago to wind-up, and it ought to have been closed then and there; and he did not think the directors had acted wisely since that period. With regard to the property, he believed it was good, if in the hands of a private individual, although it could never be profitably worked by a company. Before he could sign, and give up the shares, he must ask the consent of the Commissioner in Bankruptcy.

The CHAIRMAN said he had the greatest possible respect for his friend, Mr. Burz, who charged them with acting unwisely in not getting rid of the property. How far he was justified in such a statement, might be proved from the fact that a special resolution was passed empowering the directors to accept the offer of Mr. Burz to take means for disposing of the premises, both at Millwall and Tamar. Now he (the chairman) must suppose that Mr. Burz had taken active measures to dispose of them without success, and yet he had the unfairness to charge the directors with unnecessary delay in winding up.

Mr. WINGROVE said it seemed to be a point that the directors had a prospect of gaining something by the proposed arrangement. He should be very glad to hand over his shares, if any one would take his place.

Mr. LAWRENCE said the best way was for all those who were willing to sign, to do so, and then there would be such a small number left that they could be easily dealt with.

Mr. HARRISON said at the last meeting they all seemed to be of opinion that the company should be at once wound-up.

Mr. LAWRENCE said he would move that the following resolutions, unanimously passed at the last meeting, be confirmed:—

"The directors propose that the company shall be forthwith dissolved, and that they take on themselves all present and future liability, the shareholders, on their part, relinquishing any claim which they may have on any property of the company, on condition of their being thus exonerated from all present and future liability." —That it is the opinion of this meeting that the proposal of the directors should be accepted."

Mr. HARRISON seconded the resolution, which was carried with one dissentient. After a lengthened discussion, a number of parties present signed the agreement, and the company may be considered wound-up. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors terminated the proceedings.

IMPROVED TRAVELLING BAG.—Amongst the articles of utility recently registered is an improved travelling bag, by Dixon and Eyres, of Savoy-street, Strand, the improvement being that the cap or cover of the bag is hinged to the back, and is made so as to lap over the front, and close the bag against the entrance of dust, wet, &c.

MINING NOTABILIA.

TAVISTOCK DISTRICT.—Very recently a good discovery has been made by Capt. Lean, of Wheal Franco, north of the old workings, and west of Sortridge Consols. This discovery is west of the great cross-course that hove the lode so far at Wheal Franco, and other mines in the immediate neighbourhood. The matrix of the lode is analogous to the Sortridge when first discovered, and it is fair to presume, from the corresponding distance of a great elvan course north, it is the Sortridge Consols lode. The facilities for prosecution are favourable; water-power in abundance. The discovery is north-east of the Lady Bertha, Baller and Bertha, and Buckland Consols Mines, and east of Bedford and Sortridge.

TRENEW CONSOLS.—I have just been informed that there is a very important discovery in the 80 fm. level, west of engine-shaft, worth 80/- per fm.; and in driving, the 80 fm. level east will, no doubt, cut the same course of ore which was left in the bottom of the 70 fm. level. This discovery greatly enhances the value of the mine, and, no doubt, will be the means of giving great interest to the mining district.—March 12.

WEST COLLACOMBE MINE.—This mine is much improved driving east. At the eastern boundary, and no great distance from Collacombe Mine, the Collacombe lode is opened—a large and fine lode; and no doubt, before sinking very deep, there will be sufficient indications to warrant the sinking a permanent engine-shaft. This lode will run through the sett for more than half a mile. I was much pleased with the appearances. The captain informed me they would sample about 50 tons of rich ore next sampling, and about 80 tons of jack of good quality; and about 7 tons of lead on the floors. The mine is worked with spirit, and no doubt the adventurers will be repaid for their outlay.

NORTH WHEAL UNITY.—I find that the engine lode in the bottom level continues rich in tin, worth about 20/- per fm. The stopes under and above this level will shortly, I presume, furnish tolerably large returns for the smelting-house. I congratulate the adventurers on their prospects.

LLANDDDBRWRIFI UNITED SILVER-LEAD MINE (CARDIGANSHIRE).—In our Journal of to-day, we publish the prospects of a company, formed for working this property, and which appears to present more than ordinary attractions to mining capitalists. The mines have been carefully examined, and, as will be seen, have been partially wrought. It is proposed to economise the office and staff expenses, by condensing five distinct mines under one management. The scheme being under the Limited Liability Act, is a sure guarantee against the loss beyond the amount subscribed. The list of directors, "all well-known men of business and personal character," is a sufficient proof of the *bona fide* character of the undertaking, and a warranty that the capital will be judiciously managed. The names of the engineers are well known to the mining world and the public as persons eminent in their profession, and we shall with pleasure a company who purpose carrying out such grand operations under such favourable auspices.

BIRCHETT MINE.—The preliminaries that were entered into with the projectors of this mine were ratified yesterday, and the adventurers have made a call of £1. 6d. per share on 6000 shares, to pay the past outlay and the forthcoming costs in the further prosecution of the mine.

COLLEGE LEAD MINES.—These mines, to which we briefly referred last week, embrace 32 townlands, comprising about 25 miles in circumference. The grant is for 31 years, by the Provost and Fellows of the Royal Trinity College, Dublin, at a royalty of 1-16th of the ore which may be raised. Operations have been commenced in the townland of Curraghings, about 17 miles from the seaport town of Newry. From the information that has been collected relative to the value of this part of the grant, it is believed that for the expenditure of a small sum of money large payable results will be realised. The surface of the ground is characterised by numerous isolated hills rising from a stratum of clay-slate, similar to the valuable lead-producing districts of Cardiganshire and Cornwall. No. 1, or "large lode," was discovered about 15 years since, when it was run by four or five working miners. Its entire width is estimated to give 8 to 10 tons of ore, worth 130/- per fm. The present operations embrace the clearing and opening of the inclined shaft down to the ore deposit, and in ascertaining the run and value of new lodes; also in arranging the necessary plant to command extensive working.

CHOLLACOT CONSOLS is situated one mile south-east of Tavistock. The grant has been obtained from Mrs. Payne and Miss Mildran, at 1-15th royalty. Three very promising lodes have been discovered and opened on, about 200 fms. from the east to the west coast pits; they vary in width from 4 to 6 ft., and are intersected by a fine cross-course; they produce splendid gossan, mixed with pyrite, quartz, and copper ore. The lodes comprised within the precincts of the grants are the Bedford United, and others west of the great cross-course and north of the elvan course, that traverse the locality, which have produced considerable quantities of ores, and paid good dividends for several years past, and there is every probability of their continuance. The mine can be drained 40 fms. deep by water-power, and the contiguity to the projected railway, which will pass through the sett, combined with the canal communication, only one mile distant from the quay, are favourable encouragements to prosecute such mineral properties with vigour commensurate with the good prospects presenting.

INNEY CONSOLS.—This mine has recently been inspected by Capt. W. Burgen, who reports that on examining the surface he found the stratum of dark blue clay-slate, with what some call trap rock, but which he believed to be hard clay-slate. There were also several elvan courses to the west of the present workings: these courses, in most districts, make large deposits of minerals, but enough had not been done at the Inney Consols to form an opinion upon the effect produced by them. The development of this point will probably be very satisfactory.

The 38 fm. level had been driven 4 fms. west; the lode in the end is 18 in. wide, and its character more favourable than it is either in the 20 or the deep adit levels; he, therefore, recommended to drive further on the course of the lode in that level. With regard to future operations, Capt. Burgen advised the driving of a cross-cut from No. 1 lode, in the 36, to intersect No. 2 lode, the distance between them being about 9 fms. From the nature of the stratum, and the favourable character of the lode, he judged that some good results would be obtained from its intersection. It must be remembered that No. 2 lode has produced some silver-lead and copper ore (proved by assay to be exceedingly rich), but has never been tried more than 3 fms. deep. That lode, in his opinion, was superior to any lode in the mine. On No. 5 lode he recommended sinking 10 or 15 fms. below the surface, the present appearances fully justifying the expense. The engine-shaft is sunk 27 fms. deep, worked by a powerful water-wheel, and with ample machinery for any further operations necessary for the development of the mine. According to the assay by Mr. Mitchell, one sample yielded 1075 ozs. of fine silver per ton of 20 cwt., and 14 1/2 per cent. of copper; another 49 ozs. of fine silver and 45% per cent. of lead. Some assays made by Messrs. Johnson and Sons yielded 60 per cent. of lead and 52 troy ozs. of silver; another 844 ozs. of fine silver; and a third, by the same gentlemen, 980 ozs. of fine silver. We are informed that in a short time means will be adopted for raising additional capital, for the purpose of working the mines on a more extended scale; as at present they are held by only two or three adventurers.

NORTH WHEAL WRY.—A company is in course of formation for working this sett, which has been inspected by a number of competent mining captains, and is found to partake of the metalliferous character of the district. It immediately adjoins, on the north and west, the celebrated Wheal Wry, three of whose rich lodes it is said to contain. Underlying in the same direction, is the Wheal Wry main lode, which would bring the latter, in depth, into this sett. Two of the lodes have been opened on, and are found to contain silver-lead ore, added to which, the country is soft, an important feature in Wheal Wry. The mine is in a direct line with North Trelawny and Wheal Ludicot, and in the vicinity of the Caradon, Trelawny, Mary Ann, and other dividend and progressive mines. It is, therefore, believed that it will, if prosecuted with vigour, return remunerative profits on the capital invested. The lease has been secured at a royalty of 1-15th, and the adventure will be divided into 6000 shares, with a deposit of 5s. per share. Mr. Chas. D. Butt, of 15, Union-court, Old Broad-street, is the secretary.

GUNNISLAKE MINE.—This mine is on the banks of the Tamar river, immediately adjoining Devon Great Consols Mines, and is situated in the heart of the richest copper districts in the world; its strata are killas and granite in junction. Its position in the district is extremely favourable, being encircled with dividend-paying and flourishing mines—Devon Great Consols, Bedford United, East Gunnislake, and Hingston Down Consols. We have seen a sketch of the mines, and the country surrounding them, as also a geological plan of the mine and district, elaborately lithographed, placing, in a clear light, the excellent position of the property. Within the limits are 14 promising lodes, all in whole, and unexhausted. It is intended, shortly, to give new life to the concern by a further outlay of several thousand pounds, which is fully expected will bring it, in a short time, into a permanent and good dividend-paying state. Much interest has attached to this place on account of its excellent situation, and upwards of 18,000/- has been already expended in intersecting several rich lodes, all producing ore of rich quality, by an adit more than 600 fms. long.

BODMIN WEST DOWNS.—We are informed that the difficulties which surrounded the original formation of this company, and occasioned the deposit of the lease as a valuable security, have been removed, and it is now proposed to work the mine in 8000 parts or shares, of 12/- each, under the Cost-book Principle. So soon as the shares are allotted, the adventurers will be called together to elect a committee of management, the other officers required, and to arrange the place of future meetings. To comply with the terms of the lease, men have been employed in explorations on the mine, and the result is that 1800/- in value of tin ore has been sent to market, the superior quality of which is proved by the fact that it fetched from 68/- 10s. to 83/- per ton. The prospectus will appear in our advertising columns next week, when we shall more fully allude to the prospects of the adventure.

SLATE QUARRYING IN IRELAND.—We learn that, since January, 1855, there have been in operation extensive slate quarries, situated about 10 miles from the city of Waterford and five miles from the river Suir. There is ample water-power summer and winter, vessels of 200 tons burthen can load at Carrick-on-Suir, and the fall or incline from the quarries to the river being 220 feet, if they were properly worked, a tramroad could be made, which would much cheapen carriage. The slates are fully equal to Welsh, the metal can be split as fine and thin as required, and there is a market for any quantity made. The parties who have been working the quarries own the fee simple, labour is cheap, the country quiet (although on the borders of Tipperary and Kilkenny), and the right of way for a tram-road for half the distance has been secured. It is intended to form a company to develop the property to the extent of its present value, and upwards of 10,000/- has been already expended.

SALE OF IRONSTONE WORKS IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—Messrs. Plewes and Wall, auctioneers of the Poultry, submitted, yesterday, for sale by auction, at the Mart, a freehold property, known as the "Dirt House Estate," and including the Bagbrook Ironstone Works, situated with an unrivalled facility for land and water carriage, the property being only a short distance from the Grand Junction Canal, and almost adjoining the London and North-Western Railway. No bid was made for the property, but it is expected it will be purchased by private contract during the ensuing week, a capitalist being in negotiation with the auctioneers.

Two puddlers (J. Ennis and W. Woottton) having been charged before the magistrates at Bilton with neglecting their work, retorted upon their employers (Messrs. Jones and Murrick, of the Spring Vale Works), by asserting that the iron was bad. This Mr. Turner, the agent, denied; he said there was no difference between what it was when the men left work and when they were engaged. For the defence several witnesses were called, who most positively stated that the iron was very bad, so bad that whilst previously they could make six heats in 12 hours, lately it took them 14 or 15 hours to do the same, and they could not, therefore, earn their wages. The summons was, on this ground, dismissed.

FOREIGN MINES.

The St. John del Rey Mining Company have advices to Jan. 30, from Morro Velho. The produce for Dec. was 25,341 oits.—253,450 lbs. troy, or 9228.7s. 4d.; the costs, Rs. 65,945-331, at 27 1/2d., amounting to 7911. 15s. 9d.; leaving a profit of 13162. 11s. 7d. The produce for December was less than in November, and that for the first 11 days of January had not improved; whilst the costs have increased, owing to there being three native pay-days, instead of two—a circumstance which happens every six months—so that there being more expense incurred in consequence of the Christmas holidays, in payment for labour, distribution of beef and rum. The prices, also, of various articles are higher; besides also charges which come occasionally, as expenses of parties from England, gold, tropic, sundries, and 708 milhars for small iron pipes. The 2000 milhars for the synphon-pipes will continue to be charged for six or eight months. The charges on account of the new works at the Praia, when the driving at the tunnel is completed, will be lessened to the amount of what it is now costing; and when the whole of the new works now in contemplation shall have been completed, the surface expenditure will be limited to that for repair, which, however, on such extensive works, must always be considerable; but, for the mine, the expenditure must constantly increase as it gets deeper. Stamps working 31 days, average 130-140 heads; stamps working with 132 heads, 30-34 days; contractors worked each 26-27 days. A stoppage of five hours occurred in the second, in consequence of a breakage of the Christos rego, and for about a week during the holidays they had to be driven at a slower rate, on account of the smaller supply of stone; and thus the daily average stamped for the 31 days was only 235 1/2 tons. The stone driven the whole of the month has been very poor in appearance; and the quantity also sent up proves the mine has not enough to allow them to throw out any but the completely barren killas, which had been done to the extent of 59 tons, while 32 1/2 tons were brought in from the old refuse heap, estimated to be worth only 1 to 1 1/2 oz

Mining Correspondent.

BRITISH MINES.

ALFRED CONSOLS.—M. White, March 10: We have now commenced the driving of the 140 fm. level, east of Field's engine-shaft; no change to notice in the lode. The south lode in the 130, east of this shaft, is worth for copper ore 14d. per fm.; this lode in the same level, west of said shaft, is worth for copper ore 4d. per fm., having every appearance of improvement. The ground in the levels above is driving at 4d. per fm. The ground in Davey's engine-shaft, sinking below the 80, is just as reported last. The 100 cross-cut, south of this shaft, is progressing favourably,—price for driving, 3d. per fm. The lode in the 80, east of this shaft, has a better appearance than for the last 2 fm. driving. We are glad to say the mine is just now getting in working order. The tribute department is looking well.

BALLYVIRGIN.—R. W. Smith, March 11: The lode in the north end, which we are driving on, is getting small; the stopes in the back of this level, set to six men, for the month, at 2d. 10s. per fathom, will yield 3½ tons of copper ore per fm. The lode in the south end will yield about 2 tons of copper ore per fm. I have resumed the driving of the cross-cut west from the end of the 10 south, to intersect the lode we are driving on south-west. I have this day freighted a vessel at 13s. per ton, she will be ready to load on Monday next, when I hope to put on board 120 or 130 tons of copper ore.

BEDFORD UNITED.—J. Phillips, March 12: We are driving by the side of the lode in the 130 east. In the same level west we have cut through the lode, which is 5 ft. wide, composed chiefly of capel and spar, impregnated with ore. The lode in the 115 west is 3 ft. wide, producing full 3 tons of ore per fm. In this level east the lode is 18 in. wide, producing good stones of ore occasionally. The stopes in the back of this level are worth 7 tons of ore per fm. The lode in the 103 is 2 feet wide, producing a little saving work. Jackson's stopes in this level are worth 5 tons of ore per fm. The lode in the 35 is 2 ft. wide, producing a little ore. The tribute department is looking much as usual.

BOILING WELL.—John Lyle, March 6: Yesterday, we cut a lode of ore in the 20 end east, worth 40s. per fm., is still looking well. The 30 end east is also looking well, it is at present worth 20s. per fathom; the 20 end is not so far east as the 30 west is about 3 ft. wide, containing gossan and spar. The lode in the 30 west is about 7 ft. wide, each composed of capel, prian, and spar.

BRONFLOYD.—J. Jones, March 10: At No. 3 engine-shaft the ore in sinking is not so good, with harder ground, but the breast of the adit is much better, with more ore, and in ground more congenial for its continuance.

BRYNFALL.—W. Francis, March 13: The Milwyr vein, in the forebore of the 50 west, continues strong in character, about 2 feet wide, with a little ore interspersed. The stopes over the level will yield an average of 1 ton per fathom; set at 20s. per fathom, and 35s. shilling per ton for ore; operations under the level are still suspended, in consequence of the water, which, however, is now gradually subsiding, and we may hope soon to resume the workings in this part. We have cut a few small strings in driving north over the 50, to prove Woodland's vein, all of which contain ore, and we may fairly infer, on finding the main vein, that it will be also productive. At Matthew's, we have completed the lode in the 45, and commenced driving the level northwards, towards the bearing ground, with a fair chance of discoveries in driving on the vein from the bottom of the vug. Last month's ore is sold at the Ticketings to-day, 8 tons of round, at 18d. 11s., and 17 tons small, at 16s. 3s. 6d.

BRYNTAIL.—J. Roach: The communication of the rise above the 10 fm. level with the shaft sinking on it from surface is not yet effected, but the workmen are now so near each other that the stuff falling from their tools can be distinctly heard from either place. The lode in the rise has produced some very good ore during the week; there is every probability of our hoisting to-morrow. The lode in the winze sinking under the 10' has, for the past two days, been accompanied by very congenial clay-slate, and has produced solid strings of ore in the lode; it is now 7½ fms. deep; up to this time we have not a drop of water. The eastern stopes continue the same in value and appearance as when last reported—viz., 15d. per fm. I shall undoubtedly resume the stopes east and west of the rise in the beginning of the ensuing week.

BUCKLAND CONSOLS.—J. Carpenter, March 14: I have given orders to coetean the sett north of the lodes already discovered, to ascertain how many are comprised within the limits of the grant, that I may judge with more certainty where the machinery required ought to be placed, to command the future operations to the best advantage for bringing the mine to the quickest possible beneficial results.

BULLER AND BERTHA UNITED.—J. Carpenter, March 10: The two copper lodes, and the western cross-course, already discovered in Buckland Consols, run through the above mine set, as Buller and Bertha immediately adjoins the western boundary of Buckland Consols. Lady Bertha lode runs through both the above sett.

BUTTERDON.—T. Grenfell, March 10: The only alteration to notice in the north end, since last reported, is that a larger quantity of water is issuing out of it than at any former time, which strongly indicates an approximation to ground of a different character from what we have hitherto had. We have discovered in the south end the eastern part of the lode, from whence water is flowing very freely; it is about 3 ft. distance from the western part—that is 1 foot wide, composed of fluor-spar, mandic, and lead ore.

CALSTOCK UNITED.—W. Cooke, March 8: There is no improvement in the west end at the sump shaft. In the 60 the caunter lode has become small, and the end is now suspended. In the cross-cut south in this level there is no alteration, and the cross-cut is also stopped. In the cross-cut north, in the same level, the branch of mandic and spar still continues on with the end, and it is slightly increased in size; the end is very hard, and a great deal of water coming from it. The tribute pitch on the tail lode continues good. We have hauled 200 kibbles of very good work, and have about 500 more kibbles broken underground.

CAMBORNE CONSOLS.—W. Roberts, March 8: In the 33, 20, and 10 fm. levels, driving west on the caunter, the lode is about 1 ft. wide, each producing good stones of yellow ore. The 33 cross-cut north is progressing favourably.

CARNEWAS.—R. S. Bryant, March 11: The adit level, on the north lead lode, has been driven in the past month 10 fms. 2 ft., making 110 fms. 2 ft. from cliff; the lode has been large, varying from 1 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. wide, composed of gossan and flookan, with lumps of white iron and mandic, and is of a promising character for the production of lead ore; the end is at present driving on the lode in elvan, which is very easily wrought. The persons I engaged for fixing the railroad and rollers have been employed the last 10 days securing the shallow level, for the purpose of ventilation, which we hope to complete in three or four days, when they will commence to put in the railroad.

CARVANNAL.—W. Roberts, March 8: In the 118 west the lode is 2 feet wide, kindly, with stones of good ore. No alteration in any other part of the mine.

CATHERINE AND JANE CONSOLS.—A. B. Callander, March 12: In C level No. 1 cut remains as last reported. No. 1, where we have a good course of ore, we cannot work upon till we have the rails to clear C level; the end of this level remains the same. In B level, No. 1 sink is still productive. Nos. 2 and 4 sinks are the best points; being full of water we cannot work upon them. In A level, the rib of ore is promising, and it will be advisable to work upon it; although the rock is now hard, from all appearance it will become softer and more kindly after driving about 2 fms.; we are proceeding with the dressing-floors as rapidly as possible, and will soon have them completed.

CLIJAH AND WENTWORTH.—J. Cudlip, C. Glasson, March 8: On Jalla lode, Walters's engine-shaft is sunk 9 fms. 3 ft. below the 50 fm. level—sinking by twelve men, at 2d. per fm. The 50 fm. level, driving west from Walters's shaft, will yield 1½ ton of ore per fm.; the 50 fm. level, driving east, will yield ½ ton of copper ore per fm. The 40, driving east, will yield ½ ton of copper ore per fm. The 30, driving east, will yield ½ ton of copper ore per fm. On the new lode, the 50, driving east, is extended 9 fms., and will yield 2 tons of copper ore per fm.; the 50 cross-cut, driving south from the new lode, is extended 15 fms.—driving by six men, at 3d. 10s. per fm.; the 30, driving west on the new lode, is 4 ft. wide, composed of mandic, prian, and tin, and copper ore.

COLACOMBE.—S. Mitchell, March 11: During the past week the 62, east of Morris's shaft, has been driven about 5 ft.; the lode is full 5 ft. wide, composed of soft quartz, mandic, white prian, and a leader of rich copper ore on the north wall, 5 in. wide; and I have not before seen the lode looking so promising in this level as in the present end. The 62, west of Morris's shaft, has been driven about 6 ft.; the lode in the present end is disordered by a fine cross-course, which is being intersected; the part seen, 2 ft., is of a highly promising character, composed of soft quartz, mandic, and prian. The rise in back of the 50 has been put up about 7 ft.; the lode is still a very fine course of ore, worth about 60d. per fm. for the length of the rise (12 feet). The lode in the pitches in back of this (50 fm.) level is still a very good course of ore, worth on an average about 30d. per fm. The western shaft has been sunk about 7 ft.; there is no alteration to notice in the lode since last reported on. The pitch in back of the 26 has improved, the lode being worth about 15d. per fm.

CUBERT UNITED.—J. Trewin, March 8: At Trebellen, the lode in the 76, south end, is much of the same size and character as last stated, 12 in. wide, composed of quartz and mandic, worth for lead 3 cwt. per fm.; we have resumed driving this level north, the lode at this point is 15 in. wide, composed of quartz, prian, and lead, worth about 9 cwt. per fm. and has every appearance of an improvement. The lode in the 66, north end, is not quite so large as last reported; it is now 10 inches wide, composed of quartz, mandic, and lead, worth about 7 cwt. per fm.; the stopes in back of this level are not quite so good for lead, worth 6 cwt. per fm. No lode broken in the stopes south of the engine-shaft for the past week. The lode in the 66, south of the engine-shaft, is 1 ft. wide, composed of quartz and mandic, producing a little lead, and has the same flitting appearance. The stopes in back of the 66, south of the sump-winze, are producing about 2½ cwt. of lead per fm. The lode at Towy's shaft is 13 in. wide, composed of quartz, prian, mandic, and lead, worth about 3 cwt. per fm. The stopes in back of the 56, south of the sump-winze, are worth 3 cwt. of lead per fm. There has been no lode broken in the stopes in back of this level, north of engine-shaft, for the past week.

CWM DAREN.—R. Waters, March 11: The engine-shaft continues favourable for sinking; the lode for the last 5 feet is standing perpendicular, which we consider a favourable indication. In the 40, driving west, the lode is at present producing stones of copper ore; the stopes in back of this level is as last reported. The winze below the 30 is sunk to its required depth, and next week we intend stopping the lode, unless the water prevents us. Our dressing operations are progressing slowly, owing to a scarcity of water, and the bad state of the crusher; consequently we are not able to employ a sufficient number of hands as we could wish.

DAREN.—J. Humphreys, March 10: Francis's level still continues to go forward in an unproductive lode. The stopes over Francis's level are not quite so long in ore ground as they have been, and we have seen the number of men, and put them to raise ore on tribute in another place. The stopes in the drift, between Francis and Oliver's levels, yields more ore than it has yet done. The stopes in Oliver's level continues to yield as much ore as usual; the ore ground is 8 ft. wide, of scattered ore. The stopes in the back of Level Coss is still getting larger and more productive; there is ore now 9 fms. long, of a good mixed quality, for 18 in. in width. The tribute pitch continues to yield a fair quantity of ore; there is not much change to mention. We are getting on in fixing the machinery as fast as we can calculate, and we shall be ready, if all goes well, to go to work on Saturday next. We have not taken any jiggers out of the hatches this week, and shall not until next, consequently the quantity cannot be ascertained.

DEVON WHEAL BULLER.—W. Neil, March 12: The lode in the 32 fm. level west still continues large, yielding 1 ton of ore per fm., with every prospect of a speedy improvement; in this level east there is no alteration. The western winze, sinking below the 20, it still looking well, worth 3 tons of ore per fm. The eastern winze is

producing good work, black and yellow ore—a very promising lode, and there is no doubt but that in communicating with the 32 we shall open out a good piece of ore ground; this winze is about 20 fms. ahead of the present end in the 32, and we have, therefore, every reason to expect a great improvement in that end shortly.

DEVON BURRA BURRA.—Z. Williams, of Wheal Friendship: Having been called in to inspect the mine on the surface, respecting the different lodes, and also the surface work that is now going on, I beg to hand you my report. I first directed my attention to the new surface work now in hand, from the water-wheel to the new engine-shaft. I see there will be a good line for the rods, and also convenient for connecting to the steam-engine when required. I then turned my attention to looking over the stuff drawn out of the south shaft, the west side of the cross-course, as I was not able to go underground on account of the water being in. Judging from the nature of the stuff drawn from this shaft, I think it has a promising appearance; it is composed of strong capel, quartz, mandic, prian, and small spots of yellow copper ore. I then went over the ground on the east side of the cross-course, where they have opened upon a lode from 8 to 9 ft. wide, which I consider has a good appearance, composed of gossan, capel, quartz, a quantity of prian, and a small portion of black ore, which is a good indication on the back of a lode. I think this to be the best looking lode I have seen in the set, and here I should recommend a trial shaft to be sunk 20 or 30 fms. deep, as the water will be drained the west side of the cross-course. I hear much has been said about the slate quarry, which is 150 fms. north of the last-mentioned lode. This is nothing more than a piece of ground inclining in a north direction, which cannot have any effect on the lodes in your set. Should it be sunk it would have no effect, looking at an east and west lode that is now running through the same, which is not in the least disturbed. Any further information required I shall be happy to give.

—J. Lord, March 11: We are getting on satisfactorily with our work; the shaftmen are casing and dividing the shaft, putting in footway, &c. We shall be ready on Friday to lay down our rods.

EAST BLACK CRAIG.—R. Williams, March 10: The 43 end west has a good bunch of ore on the north side, making tribute ground. The winze sinking under the 33 west is ore throughout, making nearly 1 ton of lead per fm. The cross-cut in the 22 end west is still in rider ground, but very kindly for lead. The lode in the 12 end, driving west, is large, with a deal of jack and sulphur in it. In clearing the adit, we have crushed blackstone with part of the lode standing on the north side, containing fine stones of ore. The pitch was set in the back of the 33 east last week has improved since the men commenced working it.

EAST POWEY CONSOLS.—J. Dale, March 11: The engine-shaft is now communicating with the adit level. The engine-house is completed for the reception of the engine, which the engineers will commence to fix at once, and I hope in the course of a month or five weeks to see it working. The lode in the west end is about 2 ft. wide, promising for ore in depth. Every branch of work in the mine is being done with the utmost dispatch and strict economy.

EAST FRONGOC.—T. Pascoe, March 6:—There is no material alteration in the 30 cross-cut north since my last. During Feb., this level has been extended 2 fms. 2 ft. 3 in., 2 fms. 1 ft. of which was driven into the lode, but we have not yet cut through it; at present driving by six men, 6 ft. stent, or cut the north wall, at 8½. 10s. per fathom.

EAST WHEAL GEORGE.—The lode in the 56 west is about 3 feet wide, with a bunch of ore on the north wall 8 inches wide, composed of quartz, and strong spots of grey and yellow ore.

EAST WHEAL RUSSELL.—W. Metherell, March 13: The lode in the 100 fathom level is just the same as last reported. We have completed the trip-plat, and commenced driving the 88 a few stems, cut into the run which we had to the 100, and stowed our bottom lift. The run is gone above the 88, so we are obliged to keep to the south a little, until we pass the said run, which is of little consequence. The 68 is much the same as last reported. We have not taken down any of the lodes in the 55 east and west ends since last reported.

EAST WHEAL TOLGUS.—We have fixed the lift in the easterly, and put down the sinking lift at the flat-rod shaft; the lode in the shaft is 1 foot wide, producing occasional stones of ore, and is kindly in appearance. The lode in the 10, east from flat-rod shaft, on North Buller lode, is 20 in. wide, containing mandic and stones of ore. The lode in the 10 west is 2 feet wide, producing good stones of ore, and kindly for improving. The ground in the adit cross-cut, driving south from the new shaft, is moderately easy for driving. The ground in the 12 cross-cut, south from engine-shaft, is still evan, and little more spare for driving than the kilian. The lode in the 12, east from engine-shaft, on Redruth Consols lode, is more than 2 feet wide, and almost solid mandic. The lode in the rise in back of the 22, east from engine-shaft, is 20 in. wide, 1 foot of it saving work for copper ore. The sumpmen are progressing favourably in driving the 22 cross-cut, north from the engine-shaft, towards lode.

EAST WHEAL WREY.—W. George, March 6: In my last I promised to send you a report on the lode this week, but we have only to-day been able to clear up the bottom of the shaft, and I had not time to save the post. I find there is a large lode in the shaft, underlaying east about 2½ feet in a fathom, the eastern part of which is composed of flookan and gossan, and is thickly spotted with lead; I like the appearance very much; under this there is a large capel, with small veins of lead running through it; but as the western wall has not yet been seen, we intend to cut through the lode here, together with cutting a small plat, which, with fixing tackle, &c., we hope to complete in about a week from this time, when we shall recommence sinking.

EASWY MARY.—S. Vial, J. Paul, March 8: We continue to look well in the 55 driving east; the lode is at present worth from 18 to 20 cwt. per fm. As the end has now been driven rather more than 7 fms. through a productive lode, with every prospect of its continuance, we consider it sufficient to warrant our sinking below the 55 immediately; and if it holds good till this day week, which is setting day, we shall put men to cut a tramroad to the north of the shaft, and other necessary work, preparatory to sinking. It will take about a fortnight to complete these jobs. In the 40, west of Jones's winze, sinking in bottom of the 25, the lode contains spots of ore, and is in favourable ground, but it has not materially altered for some weeks past.

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EAST WHEAL WREY.—W. George, March 6:

crusher all complete by the early part or middle of April, so as to make it available for April sampling. All other surface operations are progressing satisfactorily. In my report of Dec. last, I promised 100 tons of ore for Dec., Jan., and Feb., I have sampled 114 tons, making the ore sampled for the first six months 290 tons; and there is now on the mine 60 tons, worth 42 per ton, or 250. The crusher is precisely the same as Serridge Consols, and the price, delivered on the mine, 110.

MIXON GREAT CONSOLS.—A. Thompson, March 13: In consequence of the improvement made in the bye-lift machinery, the sinking below the 73 fathom level is going on favourably; we sunk last month nearly 2 fms. 2 ft., and shall, before the end of the present month, be down 10 fms. below the 73; we shall then drive out north and south, to prove the extent of the lode, after which we shall stop away the ore ground drained by the sinking. We have had some beautiful beds of limestone in the north end of winze, which are now disappearing, and their place is being gradually filled with ore and other portions of the lode; the lode has an improved appearance. We are preparing to empty a shaft of attle, or loose stone, considerably north of our engine-shaft, in order to examine that part of the ground which has been wrought extensively, and great quantities of ore raised above the adit level.

NANTEOS AND PENRHWY.—M. Barber, March 10: In the 46 fm. level, driving west of Penrhwy, the lode at present is unproductive; in this level, driving east, the lode is 2 ft. wide, with a promising appearance, and will yield full $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm. The stopes over this level, east and west of Jones's winze, are on an average yield about $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm. We have no alteration to speak of in the lode in the Eystumtean deep adit east. The weather is again fine, and we are getting on with the dressing as fast as we possibly can.

NORTH DOWNS.—J. Prince, March 8: The lode in the rise at J. Michael's shaft is 20 in. wide, containing stones of ore. The ground is very wet, and we expect to set the ground on tribute, and suspend the tulwyr operations in this part of the mine. In my report of Feb. 2, I apprised you of tributaries having taken a pitch on tribute at Wheal Peover, since which time they have raised some ore; it is now in course of stamping, and will be made marketable as soon as possible. I will forward to your office next week the result of my assays of the ores.

NORTH FRANCES.—Philip Hosking, March 8: Mackean's shaft is in very hard ground. In the 42 west, on Vernon's, the lode is 3 ft. wide, the north part of which looks kindly; there is a small branch of grey ore coming in upon the north wall. We have sunk about 6 ft. this week at Eale's shaft; the lode looks promising, with a fine gossan, containing spots of native copper. Some of the gossan has been assayed; the produce is 10% for copper—water increased from one to three strokes per minute.

NORTH TOWY.—W. H. Reynolds, March 8: In the cross-cut west, in the 20 fm. level, we have intersected a branch, from which we have extracted some fine lumpes of lead; the lode in the south end, in this level, is now 4 feet wide, composed of gossan, barytes, and some of lead. I find that I was mistaken in the dip of the ore ground, and that this level is not quite far enough south for it yet, but the lode is soft, and in a few days we shall get into it; the appearance of the lode at present is such as to warrant us to expect a course of ore very quickly. In the winze sinking below the 10 we have a remarkably kindly lode, yielding some good work for lead; and north and south of it we shall have some good pitches to set, after the south end in the 20 is extended beyond it.

NORTH WHEAL BASSET.—T. Glanville, March 7: In the 72 fm. level, west of Lyle's shaft, the lode is yielding 5 tons of ore per fm. In the 62 the lode is yielding 9 tons of ore per fm. In the 32, west of Grace's shaft, the lode is yielding 4 tons of ore per fm. The other parts of the mine are without alteration.

NORTH WHEAL CROFTY.—W. Thomas, jun.: On Reeves's lode, the 70, driving east from the cross-course, is worth 51 per fm. The 80, driving east from ditto, is worth 121 per fm. The 90, driving west of Petherick shaft, is worth 151 per fm. The 43 west, on Cherry Garden lode, is worth 71 per fm.

NORTH WHEAL ROBERT.—A. Pryor, March 12: There is no alteration to notice. All parts of the mine continue to yield much the same as last reported.

NORTH WHEAL TRELAWSY.—H. Hodge, H. Harvey, March 12: Coryton's engine-shaft in sunk 5 fms. below the 36 fm. level. The lode in the 36, south of the shaft, is 3 ft. wide, producing 3 cwt. of lead per fm. The lode in the rise in the back of this level, south of the shaft, is 3 ft. wide, producing 4 cwt. of lead per fm. The lode in the winze sinking under the 23 is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, producing 3 cwt. of lead per fm. The cross-cut driving east at the 13 is extended 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ fms. towards Wheal Wrey lode. The pitches are producing much as usual.

NORTH WHEY CONSOLS.—J. Tree, March 12: The men have finished casing up the shaft, and resumed further operations in sinking on the course of the lode, where it is of an improved character, full 5 ft. wide, as promising a lode as can be seen, carrying a strong capel, precisely similar to Wrey Consols and other mines adjoining; we have about 3 fms. more to sink to get the shaft down to the required depth, when we shall immediately commence driving south on the course of the lode, and we hope to be in a position to make returns. We have about 30 tons of mundie (containing a small portion of lead) at surface, which I think to be rich for silver, samples of which I have taken and sent to Mr. Bawden to be assayed, the result of which I shall have in a day or two.

PEDN-AN-DREVA UNITED.—J. Delbridge, J. Carpenter, March 8: The sumpkins are employed fixing a plunger-lift at Wheal Sparnon, to raise dressing water for the steam-stamps, the clearing of Sparnon adit being sufficiently accomplished for fixing the same. In the 80 fathom level, east of engine-shaft, on Martin's lode, the lode is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 feet wide, yielding tin stamping work. The 80 fathom level east, on the north lode, is unproductive. In May's rise, west of engine-shaft, on Martin's lode, the lode is 2 ft. wide, yielding a little tin. We have holed the rise from the 68 to the 60. In the 60, west of engine-shaft, on Martin's lode, the lode is 7 feet wide, worth 100% per fm. In Ellery's rise, in the back of the 60 west, on Martin's lode, the lode is 5 ft. wide, worth 110% per fm. In the 60 west, on engine lode, we have driven a cross-cut north through the engine lode, lode 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, yielding saving work for tin; the lode has good appearance, and produces fine stones of copper ore. We purpose cross-cutting in the 68, to cut the same lode, and prove its value here. In the winze sinking below the 53, the lode is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, worth 15% per fm.; the lode in the last 6 fms. sinking is much improved in value, and likely to produce a large quantity of good tin ground. In the 55 east, on engine lode, the lode is 6 feet wide, yielding road stamping work. In the 47 east, on engine lode, the lode is at present disordered. In the 55 cross-cut south, towards Skinner's lode, the lode is not yet cut. In the 49 cross-cut south, towards Bragg's, the ground is favourable for driving. Our surface works are progressing with dispatch. We have connected the new boiler for the engine this day, which will be a considerable saving in coal.

PEMBROKE AND EAST CRINNIS.—G. T. Trewren, March 11: The ground at Reid's, East Crinnis, and Smith's shafts, still continues favourable for sinking. In the 134 west, no lode taken down. In the 122 west the lode is 3 ft. 6 in. wide, looking very kindly, and producing occasional stones of ore. We have commenced driving towards Smith's shaft, in order to communicate with it. In the stopes in the bottom of the 90, east from Smith's shaft, the lode is from 3 to 4 ft. wide, worth 75% per fm. We are still driving by the side of the Pembroke lode in the 90 east. In driving east in the 70 we have not taken down any of the lode for the past week. The other parts of the mine are the same as last reported.

PERRAN WHEAL GEORGE.—R. Davies, March 10: The general appearance of the lode is much the same as when I wrote last, it shows beautiful quartz, exceedingly friable mundie, and copper ore. In the past week our progress in driving has been rather impeded, caused by a break in the bucket-rod; however, it is put all right again, and the machinery is now working well.

PRINCE ALBERT CONSOLS.—R. Davies, March 10: I have nothing particular to inform you respecting this mine, only that we are progressing very satisfactorily in driving the cross-cut.

ROUND HILL.—J. Knebone, March 12: The lode at new engine-shaft, sinking under the 30 fm. level, is 2 ft. wide, producing a little lead ore. The lode in the 30, south of new engine-shaft, is 6 ft. wide, yielding 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of lead ore per fm. The lode in the winze sinking under the 20, south of new engine-shaft, is yielding full 2 tons of lead ore per fm. At Coppice shaft, in the 20, we are driving on the branch cut, as stated in my last report: we are not sure as yet that this is the lode, but hope in a little time to prove it. I see no alteration in the tribute pitches since my report of Feb. 27. The late fine weather will enable us to commence at once drawing the tributaries' ore from the 30, north of engine-shaft; this could not be done whilst the rainy season lasted. I expect by the end of this month we shall have 20 tons of ore from this part of the mine.

SORTRIDGE AND BEDFORD.—T. Trewecke, March 12: The new shaft on the copper lode has been sunk to the depth of 6 ft. below the 20 fm. level; the lode is composed of gossan, mundie, and flookan, with good stones of yellow and black copper ore throughout the lode. The adit on the cross-course has been cleared 55 fms., and we are nearly out of the crushed ground; there has been let out to-day a quantity of water, thus showing that the level is good inside.

T. Neill, March 13: The shaft on the copper lode is sunk to the depth of 26 fms.; the lode is large, composed of capel, gossan, mundie, and flookan, with good stones of yellow copper ore. The men are making good progress in sinking, and will complete their contract in the time named. The adit level on the cross-course still continues in crushed ground.

SORTRIDGE CONSOLS.—J. Metherell, March 13: In the 50 west the lode is cut into about 2 feet, which is not far enough to speak of its value, but, so far as seem, we are breaking some good stones of ore. The eastern end, in the same level, is still unproductive; the western end, in the same level, on the south branch, is worth 1 ton per fathom. The western, in the 40, is worth 2 tons per fathom. The stopes in the back of the same level, east of Harvey's winze, are worth 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons per fm. The pitches in the back of the same level are worth 1 and 3 tons per fm. The stopes in the back of the 30, east of Benny's rise, are worth 4 tons per fm. In Gibbons's pitch, in the back of the same level, their present stopes are worth 5 tons per fm. Tipped's pitch, further west, is worth 4 tons per fathom. Pellow's pitch, still further west, is worth 1 ton per fathom. We have nearly cleared the 20, when we shall resume Bakerly's stopes again, which are worth 14 tons per fathom. No alterations in any other part of the mine.

SOUTH BEDFORD CONSOLS.—J. Phillips, jun., March 12: The lode in the engine-shaft is from 2 to 3 ft. wide, producing a little stamping work. In the 49 west the lode is 3 feet wide, producing 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm. The stopes in the back of the 30 are worth 3 tons of ore per fm. The lode in Bed Whim shaft is worth 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm. In the 36 west the lode is 3 ft. wide, producing saving work.

SOUTH CARN BREA.—T. Glanville, March 8: In sinking the flat-rod shaft we have intersected a cross-course to the west of it; the branch on the lode is 1 ft. wide, composed of green carbonate and grey copper ore, re-set to sink by nine men, at 25% per fm. The engine-shaft is completed to the deep adit level. I would strongly recommend driving south, which, at the intersection of the lode, will be considerably below the present bottom of the flat-rod shaft, where we have the ore.

SOUTH CUDDRA.—S. Truran, March 13: The new shaft is sunk about 17 fathoms, where we calculated intersecting the lode within a fathom or two. I am glad to report the lode is now in the shaft, about 2 ft. wide; the south part, 1 ft. wide, rich ore. If it continues as at present, we shall soon get a sale of copper ore, but it must be understood that, having only seen the lode about two hours, we cannot say much about it. We have timbered up the north adit shaft, and put a whin on the same; we shall now cut shaft plat, then commence to drive south towards the gossan lode, which we calculate will be about 25 to 30 fms.; the ground is easy for driving; it may vary from 2 ft. to 3 ft. per fm. The smelting, buildings, and a little office for the present use, attached, are just completed.

SOUTH CREVEN.—J. Delbridge, E. Chegwin, March 8: The ground at the engine-shaft is improved a little, and we hope, from the appearance of the bottom of the shaft to have a still further improvement. In the 84, west of flat-rod shaft, the lode is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, producing 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm., and ground favourable; in the 84, east of engine-shaft, the lode is small and poor; in the 84 cross-cut the ground is hard. In the 74, west of flat-rod shaft, the lode is 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, yielding 2 tons of

ore per fm.; the lode in this level has a favourable appearance, and is likely to open a good piece of tribute ground; in the 74, east of Gore's shaft, the lode is 3 ft. wide, producing 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of ore per fm. In the 64 east the lode is 20 in. wide, yielding 1 ton of ore per fm.; the lode has a favourable appearance, and ground now in a killas country. We are preparing to case Gore's shaft from the 64 to the 74, to draw from that level; when this work is completed we hope to set some tribute ground in the back of the 74, west of the shaft, which, for want of air, we have been unable to do until now. Upon the whole, our ends are looking a little better than for months past, and our tribute pitches are without alteration.

SOUTH DEVON GREAT CONSOLS.—J. Cook, March 8: We have commenced driving in the 50 fm. level; the lode at this place is rather disordered by means of small cross-courses, and we do not expect much improvement until we get through the main cross course, which is now about 3 ft. ahead of the present end. The winze on the north lode is stopped for the present, in consequence of an increase of water. The stopes over the 37 there has been no lode taken down this week.

SOUTH DOLCOATH AND CARNARTHEN CONSOLS.—W. Roberts, March 8: The lode in the 50 west continues 2 ft. wide, producing good stones of ore. In the 40 east the ground has improved—lode 2 ft. wide. Other parts of the mine are without alteration.

SOUTH WHEAL TOLGUS.—We have completed the guides from the 90 to the 100 fm. level at Michell's, and commenced drawing from the 100, and hope in the early part of next week to be able to take down the lode in the 100 east and west, and also to resume the sinking of Michell's engine-shaft below the 100. We have just intersected the lode in the 90 cross-cut, north from Michell's, the lode is about 18 in. wide, composed of spar and prian, but poor for ore; we have put the men to drive west on it, and shall be able to say more about it next week. The lode in the 90, driving east from Michell's, is 20 in. wide, yielding a little ore. The ground in the 78 west, on Youren's lode, is 15 in. wide, producing good stones of ore, and kindly in appearance. The lode in the 66 west, on Youren's lode, is 1 foot wide, producing good stones of ore and kindy in appearance. The lode in the 66 east, on north lode, is 1 foot wide, producing good stones of ore. The lode in the rise in back of the 54 case is 2 ft. wide, poor; the lode in the 45, driving west of Bod's shaft, is 15 in. wide, producing good stones of ore, and is of a very promising character. At Morcom's, the lode in the 40 east is 15 in. wide, poor; the lode in the 40 west is 2 ft. wide, and kindly in appearance. We have cut a branch in the 30, driving north, but think we have 3 or 4 feet further to drive to cut the main part of the lode; the lode in the 30 east is 4 feet wide, yielding 1 ton of ore per fm.; this is a fine, open, kindly-looking lode. The lode in the 20 east is 15 in. wide, but unproductive; the lode in the 20 west is 4 feet wide, there is a little more spar in the lode than when last reported, but it is a fine looking lode, and will yield from 4 to 5 tons of good ore per fm. The lode in the 10 west is small and poor.

TALIESIN.—W. Williams, March 8: I am of the same opinion for the future working of the mine as I have stated before. I wish to drive the adit level, east of Bacon's shaft, on No. 8 lode, and drive east and west at the bottom of Bacon's shaft, to open more ground for stopes; drive the 18 fm. level east to cut No. 13 lode, and drive on under Bacon's shaft; and after emptying Peacock's shaft, to put four men to drive the cross-cut north, to cut No. 3 lode; and also put men to work in different places, where there is ore to work upon. If you will do all this, I have no doubt the mine will pay good dividends. The stopes, where we are working at present, are yielding good ore.

TAMAR SILVER-LEAD.—W. Robins, March 11: In the 215 fm. level the lode in the end is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, and worth 18 cwt. of lead per fm.; the two stopes in back of this level are yielding—No. 1, 1 ton of ore per fm., No. 2, 15 cwt. The 205 remains much the same as last reported. In the 190 end the lode is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and producing 1 ton of rich ore per fm.; the stopes are producing as follows:—No. 1, 1 ton 5 cwt. per fm.; No. 2, 1 ton 3 cwt.; Nos. 3 and 4, each 18 cwt., and the remaining ones are yielding favourably. The other stopes throughout the mine in the upper levels are also producing much the same as for some time past.

TAVY CONSOLS.—R. Williams, March 13: There is no alteration in any part of this mine since my last report, except in the 56 east, which has considerably improved, and is now worth full 2 tons of good copper ore per fm.

TEES SIDE.—W. Jeffrey, March 12: The water has been kept out for the last fortnight, and we have the greater part of the stuff cleared out of the shaft, both ore and sand, and have begun to stop the ends of the shaft; the lode is about 4 feet wide, mixed throughout with ore, worth 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton per fm. We intend to commence washing on Monday next. We had a sharp frost, which stopped the wheel, consequently the water is rising. We have commenced clearing out for the wheel-pit at Metal Band, and hope soon to begin to build the walls. The end at Metal Band is improved a little.

TRELEIGH CONSOLS.—J. Prince, March 8: The lode in the 40 fm. level, west of Carr's engine-shaft, continues regular and small, with stones of ore in the bottom of the level. The lode in the eastern end is split into two parts—that on the foot-wall is about 2 inches wide, of yellow copper ore, and the part on the hanging-wall is 1 ft. wide, consisting of blende and copper ore, but this is mostly in the bottom of the level, from which rises a pretty large stream of water, of several degrees higher temperature than it is even in the back of the level, and this I consider a favourable omen, inasmuch as I observed a similar circumstance several years ago in the eastern part of the old mine, below which a rich deposit of ore was subsequently discovered. I am inclined to believe, from the indications presenting themselves, and judging from analogy, that we are not quite deep enough for a shoot of ore, and I should advise suspending operations in the western end, and place the men with those in the cross-cut, to expedite cutting the Shanger lode, and then sink the engine-shaft to the 50 fm. (50 fms. below the surface), at which about depth Good Fortune lode will be at the shaft. At Nicholson's, the rods, which are 120 fms. in length, and at an elevation of 75 ft., from Carr's to Nicholson's, have this day been set at work in a very satisfactory manner, and before this report reaches you the shaft will be drained, when we shall proceed to ease and divide the shaft, and re-commence sinking, stopping, &c. The sample of tin mentioned in one of my former reports weighed 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs., and sold at 62 per ton, which is considered very satisfactory, when we take into account that the dressing apparatus was but temporarily arranged, and not adapted to the effectual separation of the tin from the copper, tungstate of iron, &c., but we considered it more prudent to adopt this course than to go to the expense of making alterations and additions in the dressing department previously to ascertain whether the article to be dressed would pay for returning or not. It is now proved that it will pay, and my reports are confirmed. The tin ore, when properly dressed, will fetch, at the present price of the metal, 70% per ton.

TRETOIL.—R. Rich, March 13: The new oven is finished, and works well; we expect to get from 7 to 8 tons of tin by the end of the month. In reply to your enquiry, I beg to say that we stopped 15 fms. of the lode last month, which produced full 50/50 worth of tin, giving an average value of about 30% per fathom. You may rely on our returns from tin in being kept up to 8 tons of the per month for more than two months to come; and we fully calculate on laying open new tin ground, as we have up to this time done, as fast, or even faster, than we take it away, and there is every reason to expect that we shall have a good mine even at this depth for many years to come, without reference to the south lodes, which in my opinion, from appearances, are equally valuable. The water in the shaft on Blind Will's copper lode is sinking, so that we hope to communicate the rise shortly.

TREWETHA.—T. Richards, W. Rowe, March 12: The engine-shaft is down below the 50 fm. level 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ fms. The 50 cross-cut, towards the eastern lode, is extended about 30 fms. from the engine-shaft; the ground is very congenial, although somewhat harder of progress, being porphyry or elvan, of a highly mineralised character. The 50 south will produce about 70% worth of ore per fm. The 40 north will produce 80% worth of ore per fm. The stopes are turning out much as usual. The No. 1 parcel of ore, computed 39 tons, was sold on the 29th ult. to Messrs. Sims, Wiliams, Nevill, and Co., at 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per ton; and No. 2 parcel, computed 16 tons, to Messrs. Pontefract and Wood, at 117. 10s. per ton.

UNITED MINES (TAVISTOCK).—The pitches have improved considerably since last reported. The south lode is cut under the engine-shaft, and is 18 in. wide, saving work; we have set men to drive on it 8 fms., or the month out, at 37s. 6d. per fm.; this will open further tribute ground. No lode has been taken down at the engine-shaft since we commenced sinking, but from what we have seen we have no doubt that, taking the width of the shaft, it is worth 20 guineas per fm. The dry weather is reducing the quantity of water for stamping power.

VALE OF TOWY.—S. Thomas, S. Harper, T. Harvey, March 11: Clay's Engine-shaft: At the 40, driving east on the cross lode, we think we are near the lode to the south, as it is letting out more water, and there is gossan on the south part; in the same level driving north the lode is 12 in. wide, composed of barytes. In the 30 winze, the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing about 15 cwt. of lead per fm.; south of No. 1 shaft, rise in back and winze sinking under

With the MINING JOURNAL of this week is given a SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET, which contains a Map of the BULLER AND BASSET DISTRICT, showing the various Mines in the parishes of Wendron, Gwennap, Redruth, Illogan, and Camborne, with some General Remarks on the Progress of Cornish Mining Industry.

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, March 14, 1856.

COPPER.		£. . d.	Brass (sheets) p. lb.	12½d.
Sheathing and bolts	9 1 2		Wire	11½d.
Bottoms	0 1 2½	0 1 3	QUICKSILVER	p. lb. 1½d.
Old (Exchange)	0 1 0	0	SPELTER.	Per Ton.
Best selected	p. ton 129 0 0		Foreign	23 10 0
Tough cake	126 0 0		To arrive	23 10 0-23 15 0
Tile	126 0 0			
South American	110 0 0			
IRON.		per Ton.		
Bars, Welsh, in London	9 10 0			
Ditto, to arrive	8 17 6	9 0 0		
Nail rods	9 5 0	9 10 0		
" Stafford, in London	9 10 0-10 15 0			
Bars ditto	9 7 6	11 1		
Hoops	10 10 0-12 0 0			
Sheets, single	11 0 0-12 0 0			
Pig, No. 1, in Wales	4 10 5	5 0 0		
Refined metal, ditto	5 10 0	5 15 0		
Bars, common, ditto	8 2 6	8 5 0		
Ditto, railway, ditto	8 0 8	2 6		
ditto, Swed. in Lon.	15 0	17 10 0		
Pig, No. 1, in Clyde	3 11 0	3 12 0		
Ditto, in Tyne and Tees	3 11 0	3 15 0		
Ditto, forge	3 10 0			
Staffordshire Forge Pig	4 15 0	5 0 0		
Welsh Forge Pig	3 15 0	4 0 0		
LEAD.				
English Pig	26 0 0-27 0 0			
Ditto sheet	27 0 0			
Ditto red lead	26 10 0-27 10 0			
Ditto white	27 10 0-30 0 0			
Ditto patent shot	27 10 0-28 0 0			
Spanish, in bond	24 10 0-25 0 0			
American	none.			
FOREIGN STEEL.				
Swedish, in kgs	19 0 0-22 0 0			
Ditto, in faggots	21 0 0			
English, Spring	18 0 0-23 0 0			

* At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less.

+ Thirty day's credit, and free on board at Rotterdam. The percentage of peroxide is about 60 for Nassau lump, 60 to 64 for Giesen, and 70 and 73 for ground.

REMARKS.—In reviewing our market for the past week, it is gratifying to be enabled to report that a satisfactory amount of business has been transacted in many metals, both for exportation and home consumption. Our market has assumed a very different aspect with regard to the future than it presented a week or a fortnight ago. The wavering and downward course which prices seemed likely to take has now terminated in present rates being upheld with firmness, and what slight reduction was submitted to by a few sellers who were anxious to secure orders, it is now difficult to get them to accept. It was with great reluctance that any concession was complied with, and buyers may rest assured that the earliest opportunity will be embraced to realise former quotations.

COPPER.—On Tuesday last, the usual monthly meeting of the combination took place. It did not create any feeling of interest, the trade generally believing no alteration would be announced, which was confirmed by the resolution of the smelters, that current prices should be maintained. As this article has been recently manufactured by parties whom we believe are not at present joined in the league, there is, perhaps, a chance of the monopoly in course of time being broken up, if a good quality is supplied, equal to that sold by the Thames-street houses, and buyers will only give their support to this new competition. In these times all monopolies are exceedingly distasteful, and, in a measure, contrary to the principles of free trade; it would, therefore, promote the interest of all concerned to endeavour to eradicate in every possible way the old covetous system, that of monopoly. It is all very well to have meetings at certain intervals to regulate prices, but to bind down every seller not to deviate from fixed rates under any circumstances whatever, is not only absurd, but cruel in the extreme to all beginners; the old smelters being men of large capital, it is, of course, of no moment to them, for they can easily afford to hold large stocks, or sell at a loss if need be, rather than allow any house to exist which will not comply with the rigid rules enforced by the obnoxious confederacy. The ores sold at Swansea on the 25th inst. amounted to 1631 tons; the quantity announced for sale on the 25th inst. is 2048 tons.

IRON.—An important change has taken place with regard to bars. The easy state of the market a short time since led many to believe prices were fast receding. This, however, has not been the case during the past week; on the contrary, sellers, finding orders coming in at the reduced prices from all parts more freely than they anticipated, have become indifferent about selling any further quantity, unless at previous quotations; but as there still remain a few ironmasters who would not refuse orders at the decline, it is not until these houses have closed their books that a positive rise will be established. The feeling with respect to the tendency of the iron, should the present negotiations at Paris end in peace being declared, is that an advance will be sure to take place. Merchants, therefore, would do well to contract at current rates, and not take the risk of the market any longer, for the past week has proved beyond doubt there is no scarcity of orders in our market. In Staffordshire bars there have not been many forced sales, and the improved demand for English bars will doubtless give a healthy tone to this market. North of England bars have not been affected by the late changes in Welsh and Staffordshire; the consumption in that locality, and the shipping orders, have been sufficient to enable the makers to hold for their own prices. Hoops and sheets are also in better demand for exportation. The Scotch pig-iron market has undergone considerable improvement; the increased shipments, giving confidence to buyers, has caused a run upon warrants, and prices have advanced to 71s. 6d., mixed numbers, cash; on Monday, the market opened at 67s.; Tuesday, it reached 68s. 6d.; Wednesday, prices were nominally 70s.; and yesterday attained 71s. 6d., the market closing rather agitated; today, however, things have quieted down, and sellers on 'Change quoted 70s., mixed numbers, g.m.b., f.o.b. in the Clyde.

LEAD.—With the exception of one or two parcels of pig in second hands offering a little under current rates, the market remains as before quoted, trade being very quiet, but sellers, at the same time, being indisposed to sell at less than our quotations.

TIN.—English is quiet. Foreign is somewhat firmer. Banca has been sold in Amsterdam at higher prices.

TIN-PLATES.—No alteration in value or demand.

QUICKSILVER.—A large export business has been carried on, principally to India and China.

GLASGOW, MARCH 13.—Our market is at present in a state of excitement, owing to an extraordinary operation in warrants by a speculator here. This party, who has been a holder for some time, was latterly selling warrants for fixed forward delivery, fourteen days to one month, and even longer, and at the same time had brokers buying for him for cash, or open time, with a few days' notice on buyers' part. On Tuesday, he gave notice to the various sellers for immediate delivery—say, in two to seven days—the quantity thus called up being some 30,000 tons, in addition to what he already held. The object evidently was to force the sellers to buy back their iron at a price leaving a good profit to the operator, seeing that there would not be time to place a sufficient quantity of iron in store on which to issue warrants. The result, so far, is that 71s. 6d. to 72s. has been paid for one or two 500 ton lots, for immediate settlement, while 69s. to 69s. 6d. has been taken for settlement in seven to ten days, and iron in makers' hands will hardly fetch 68s. The calculations of the operator have been founded, not on a scarcity of iron, but on the improbability of sellers sending iron into store quickly enough, and also on the fact of dealers having made open sales against the purchases from him for fixed dates. This being the case, it is not surprising that the operation has excited considerable ill-feeling among the parties who find themselves "caught." On the other hand, it is argued that they should have been more chary of selling warrants which they had not at hand. I have supposed, in stating them thus fully, that the particulars of this transaction will be interesting to your readers. The demand for founders continues very slack, and shipping orders come forward very slowly. The quota-

tions of iron for shipment are—No. 1, Gartaherrie, 72s. 6d.; No. 1, g.m.b., 69s. 6d.; No. 3, g.m.b., 67s. Shipments for week ending March 8:—Foreign, 4558 tons; coastwise, 6732—11,291 tons. In the corresponding week of 1855 they were:—Foreign, 2718 tons; coastwise, 7632—10,350 tons.

LIVERPOOL, MARCH 13.—During the past week the metal market has been fairly supported, a good amount of orders having been distributed. Prices of manufactured Iron for the most part remain steady at our quotations, although there are still some needy makers anxious to enter orders, even at reduced prices. The demand from America is commencing satisfactorily, and we expect to see the tone of the market strengthened by the good orders received from the other side. Scotch Pig-iron has been in an excited state, in consequence of the calling up, by one or two Glasgow houses, of a large quantity of warrants—say, about 20,000 tons—and which created a rush for cash parcels, and thereby raised the price to 72s. 6d. nominally, no sellers at all appearing under this figure, for prompt cash; whilst iron, three months open, could have been obtained at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per ton less. A considerable business has been done in iron at fixed dates, which clearly shows the position of the market, and that a fall in price is looked for. The shipments for the past week were large—say, 11,291 tons, against 10,350 tons in the corresponding week of last year, being an increase of 941 tons; this circumstance has tended somewhat to give an improved feeling to the market. Tin-plates are in fair request at our quotations, and considerable shipments are being made to the United States. English Tin is unaltered; orders are fair in quantity, and smelters appear to have no disposition to disturb present rates. In Lead, a good business has been done, and the demand still exists; prices are firm. The same remarks apply to Copper. The following are the quotations:—Iron: Merchantbar, 8s. 10s. to 8s. 12s. 6d. per ton. Tin: Common block, 129s. per cwt.; common bar, 130s.; refined block, 135s. Tin-plates: Charcoal, 1C. 3d. to 1C. 6d. to 1C. 9d. per box; coke, IC. 2s. 6d. to 3s. Lead: Sheet, 26s. per ton; pig, 25s. to 25s. 10s. per ton. Zinc (sheet), 31s. per ton. Copper: Bolt and sheathing, 1s. 2d. per lb.; tile and tough cake, 126s. per ton; best selected ditto, 129s. per ton. Yellow metal sheathing, 1s. per lb. Steel: Swedish keg, 19s. to 19s. 10s. per ton; fagot, 20s. 10s. to 21s.

TIN-PLATES.*

IC Charcoal, 1½t. qua. p. bx.	1 16 6	1 17 0
IX. Ditto 1st quality	2 2 6	2 3 0
IX. Ditto 2d quality	1 14 6	—
IX. Ditto 3d quality	2 0 0	—
IC Coke	1 10 6	1 11 0
IX. Ditto	1 16 6	1 17 0
English, blocks	129 0	0
Ditto, Bars (in barrels)	130 0	0
Ditto, Refined	135 0	0
Banca	129 0	0-130 0
Strait	123 0	0-129 0

TIN.

Ground	6 5 0	6 15 0
Giesen Lump	4 5 0	—
Nassau ditto	3 15 0	4 0 0
Indian Charcoal Pigs	—	7 0 0
in London		

MANGANESE.+

Ground	6 5 0	6 15 0

At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less.

* Thirty day's credit, and free on board at Rotterdam. The percentage of peroxide is about 60 for Nassau lump, 60 to 64 for Giesen, and 70 and 73 for ground.

THURSDAY.—In London, 29 packages copper from Hamburg, for the Mines Royal Company, 72 cases zinc from Belgium, 925 bags copper ore from the Cape of Good Hope. At Liverpool, 468 tons and 245 barrels copper ore from Tangier, 310 tons copper ore from Chancery.

FRIDAY.—In London, 4306 cases spelter from Hamburg.

In Salt-petre, there has again been an active enquiry, and parcels submitted at auction have found ready purchasers, at higher rates than those ruling last week. Most descriptions may be quoted at 1s. advance. It is reported that a considerable business has been done privately; and there can be no doubt that the whole of the present stock would be soon absorbed by speculative purchasers at the present quotations, as the confidence in the speedy consummation of peace continues to obtain, and it is known that the continental markets are in want of supplies, whilst some portion of that at the warehouses consists of inferior descriptions of Bombay and Madras, unsuited for the manufacture of gunpowder. It may, therefore, be fairly presumed that sellers will continue to hold until enhanced prices are offered, unless, indeed, the pressure of the money market should compel them to throw their consignments in the market for short prompts, or some unexpected source of supply should present itself. In the past week, 171 tons were landed, and 157 taken for home consumption. The present stock consists of 4667 tons, against 10,179 tons at the corresponding period of 1855. In the first ten weeks of 1856, 2510 tons were landed, and in the same period of 1855, 2177 tons. For home consumption 1595 tons were taken, against 2082 tons in 1855. At auction, 1520 bags were readily realised—refraction 11½, 32s.; refraction 7 to 8, 34s. to 33s. 6d.; and for refraction 4, 35s. per cwt.: 50 tons to arrive were purchased at 34s. 6d.

In Brimstone, there is little doing, and the price for rough had receded. The quotations are—Rough, 5s. 10s.; roll, 9s. 10s.; flour, 11s. 10s.

In the Bullion Market,—Bar gold, 77s. 9d. per oz., standard; South American doubleons, 74s. 6d. per oz.; United States gold coins, 76s. 2½d. per oz.; bar silver, 5s. 6d. per oz., standard; Mexican and South American dollars, 5s. 6d.; five-franc pieces, 59s. 6d. per oz. There has been no arrivals of the precious metals in England during the week, and the shipments have been limited: 77,940L, and 4232L. 10s. in jewellery, were taken out by the *Aeon* to South America.

The Ticketing at Swansea, on Tuesday, comprised 1631 tons, which produced 29,657 tons. The Cobre ores, 620 tons, realised 9486L 12s.; Cuba, 450, 6124L 1s. 6d.; Chili, 193, 5496L 6s. 6d.; Namaqua, 169, 4805L 10s. 6d.; Castilian, 73, 817L; Hollyford, 29, 685L 2s. 6d.; French slag, 26, 117L; the 2 tons of London ores (66s. produce) sold at 69s. 14s. 6d. per ton; and the two parcels of Namaqua-land (Wheat Maria) ores, 39 tons (27 produce) at 28s. 14s. per ton, and 30 tons (27 produce) at 29s. 18s.—The sale on March 25 will include 621 tons from the Cobre Mines; Namaqua-land, 350; Chili, 224; Spanish, 108; Peninsular, 44; Dartmouth, 38; South Manx, 33; French slag, 20; Wallich Bay, 14; Ophir, 14; Wheal de Villiers, 8; Cape, 2. The Irish mines have 570 tons; Berdhaven, 238 tons; Knockmahon, 144; Ballymurtagh, 91; Ballygahan, 35; Galway, 32; and Dhuore, 30 tons.

At Redruth Ticketing, on Thursday, 5353 tons of copper ore were sold, realising 35,880L 4s. 6d. The particulars of the sale were—Average standard, 135L 7s.; average produce, 7s.; average price, 6s. 6d.; quantity of fine copper, 73 tons 18 cwt. At Truro, on Thursday next, 6423 tons will be submitted for sale.

At Liverpool, on Tuesday, 13 tons of copper ore, from the Roughtengill Mine, Cumberland, will be sold by tender.

At Ding Dong Mine meeting, on March 3, the accounts for Oct., Nov., and Dec. showed—Balance last audit, 565L 5s. 9d.; mine cost, Nov. and Dec., 556L 11s. 10d.; materials, 443L 15s. 2d. = 1671L 12s. 5d.—Copper ore sold (less dues, 49s. 6s. 8d.), 788L 19s. 5d.; leaving balance against mine, 932L. A call of 1s. per share was made. It was stated that a greater outlay than was anticipated was found necessary, in respect to machinery, and for the purpose of bringing the mine into an efficient state of working. Captains O. O. Trewren and R. Pascoe reported that Sarah's lode had produced near 50 tons of ore within the last two months from the different pitches and bargains, which are looking well, and in a winze sinking below the 46 the lode is worth 2 tons per fm.; Taylor's lode has been cut to the 80 since last meeting, and is worth 1 ton per fm.; the lode in the winze under the 58 is worth 1 ton per fm.; Gilpin's lode, in the 80 and 90, is worth 1½ ton per fm. They are preparing 100 tons of ore, which will be ready for sampling-day, and they have considerable quantities discovered. Altogether, the prospects of the mine are good, and it will be proved cheaply, speedily, and effectually.

At Craddock Moor Mine bi-monthly meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 479L 5s. 9d.; mine costs, 746L 7s. 8d.; merchants' bills, 483L 7s. 2d. = 1674L 6s. 5d.—Calls received, 1055L; leaving balance against mine, 619L 6s. 5d. The ores sold in the last week realised 1200L, which will cover the costs for January and February, and diminish the balance against the mine. Capt. H. Taylor reported that they had sampled since last meeting 120 tons of ore, and a dividend of 7s. 6s. 6d. to the account, 675L 6s. 6d.

The Fordale Mines (Isle of Man) have declared a dividend of 1L. per share. At Gonamona Mine bi-monthly meeting, on March 7, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 699L 5s. 9d.; mine cost, Nov. and Dec., 556L 11s. 10d.; materials, 443L 15s. 2d. = 1671L 12s. 5d.—Copper ore sold (less dues, 49s. 6s. 8d.), 788L 19s. 5d.; leaving balance against mine, 932L. A call of 1s. per share was made. It was stated that a greater outlay than was anticipated was found necessary, in respect to machinery, and for the purpose of bringing the mine into an efficient state of working. Captains O. O. Trewren and R. Pascoe reported that Sarah's lode had produced near 50 tons of ore within the last two months from the different pitches and bargains, which are looking well, and in a winze sinking below the 46 the lode is worth 2 tons per fm.; Taylor's lode has been cut to the 80 since last meeting, and is worth 1 ton per fm.; the lode in the winze under the 58 is worth 1 ton per fm.; Gilpin's lode, in the 80 and 90, is worth 1½ ton per fm. They are preparing 100 tons of ore, which will be ready for sampling-day, and they have considerable quantities

At Perran and Great Wheal Leisure Union Mines meeting, on Feb. 28 (Mr. J. T. Mackenzie in the chair), the accounts showed—Amount of calls, 17,400;—less unpaid, Dec. 31, 12517. 12s. 1d.; leaving a total of 16,148. 7s. 1d.; trade creditors, 1595. 16s. 8d.; lord's dues, 239. 12s. 3d.; Sape and Co., loan, 1500; labour cost, November and December, 830. 14s. 11d., making a total of 20,320. 10s. 1d.—Steam machinery, 6700. 19s. 7d.; buildings and erections, 615. 18s. 5d.; timber on mine, 1836. 17s. 1d.; materials, 1831. 1s. 8d.; proceeds of sales of ore in Nov. and December, 933. 17s. 3d.; sundry small debts, 44. 6s. 1d.; balance at bankers, 248. 16s. 5d.; balance of profit and loss, 3063. 13s. 6d.=20,320. 10s. 1d. The existing liabilities of the company exceed the available assets by 2900. A call of 2s. 6d. per share was made; and the committee were authorised to take steps in the Stannaries Court for the enforcement of calls. Mr. W. Mackenzie was appointed secretary. It appears the last published reports were issued to the shareholder on March 17, 1855, when a call of 1s. 6d. per share was made.

At Cwm Daren Mine meeting, on Wednesday (Col. Croft in the chair), a resolution was passed declaring 2578 shares in arrear of call, to the amount of 390. 5s. 10d. absolutely forfeited; and authorising their transfer to the committee, in accordance with the 29th rule of the constabulary.

At Bedford Consols Mine adjourned general meeting, on Thursday (Mr. Edwin Weatherley in the chair), shareholders were present representing 3595 shares. Mr. Dalton reported that the reference agreed to at the last meeting, with a view to the settlement of the dispute as to the 5000', between the secretary and the company, had failed to be productive of any good result, so that Mr. Davenport (the arbitrator appointed by the secretary) had declined to act. After a very warm discussion, Mr. Balcombe presented a requisition, signed by five shareholders, representing 1300 shares, calling upon the committee and secretary to convene a special general meeting of the adventurers within 15 days, "To consider the alleged misappropriation of the sum of 5000', received by the secretary, of the funds of the company; to consider the general financial position of the mine; and generally to pass such resolution or resolutions in respect thereto as may be deemed advisable." The meeting was adjourned, to enable the secretary to convene a special general meeting, in accordance with the terms of the requisition. Mr. Balcombe remarked that, until this dispute was settled, neither he or his friends would be parties to, or responsible for, any further expenditure upon the mine, of which legal notice had been given.

At South Pant-y-Golf Mine meeting, on March 8 (Mr. P. Crukshank in the chair), the accounts showed—Balances last audit, 184. 7s. 6d.; Capt. Williams, on account of salary, 394. 19s. 4d.; costs received at Mold, 394. 19s. 4d.; balance of wages due to men, 284. 10s. 4d.; printing, 27. 2s. 2d.; sundries, 1. 7s. 6d.—Calls received, 139. 0s. 8d.; Mr. W. Michell, at Mold, 394. 19s. 4d.; leaving balance against mine, 95. 3s. 6d. A call of 5s. per share was made. It was resolved that the names of all parties in arrear of calls should be given up to the creditors of the mine, to be proceeded against in the County Court, unless the same are paid on or before this day (Saturday). Capt. Trewethen was appointed to succeed Mr. W. Ramson.

At Wheal Crebren meeting, on Thursday (Mr. C. Locock Webb in the chair), the accounts showed—Balances last audit, 119. 15s.; call received, 615. 4s. 6d.; bills receivable and carriage of ore, 282. 10s. 4d.; sundries, 1. 7s. 6d.=145. 2s. 1d.—Miners' Dues and Jan., 458. 14s. 3d.; merchants' bills, 139. 19s. 9d.; lord's dues, May to Aug., 621. 15s. 10d.; discount, office expenses, &c., 36. 17s. 6d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 246. 16s. 5d. The statement of receipts and expenditure for the next three months showed a balance against the mine, 559. 17s. 2d. A call of 5s. per share was made. Capt. James Richards, the manager, reported that the mine had improved. In the pitch in back of the 41 fm. level, 40 fms. to the east of the engine's shaft, a great and very important improvement has taken place, the lode being from 3 to 4 ft. wide, a good coarse of ore, worth 3 tons, or 24s. per fm., and the ground is all standing back of the lode from the shaft to this point. He also states that the prospects of the mine generally have improved, and he believes that a further prosecution of the operations will lead to good results. The estimate of one ground amounts to 821 tons. A subsequent report from the agent states that the above discovery is improving, and that the lode in the 66 has been cut through 6 feet, but the whole width not yet seen, there being good stones of ore in the last 4 feet.

At Cwmduy Rock Mining Company meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. B. L. Sowell in the chair), the accounts showed balance in favour of company, 157. 6s. 6d. A call of 5s. per share was made. The proceedings, which are fully reported in another column, terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

At Wheal Comfort meeting, on Monday, a resolution was passed that the same should be sold by public auction, or private contract, under the direction of a committee appointed for that purpose.

At East Birch Tor Mine (Dartmoor) bi-monthly meeting, on March 7, at which the general condition and finances of the mine were audited and received, the purser brought before the company the prospects and future workings of the mine and regretted that the sale of tin ore during the month of Feb. was not larger, which was owing to the intermittent condition of the water-power, so that sufficient to pay costs could not be dressed. The stopes and risings on the north lode are yielding all the tin sent to market, and a rise and new stope between Dix's and Thompson's shafts are commenced: 1 ton 6 lbs. of tin has been sent to market since last sampling.

Trewethen, Rhoswydol, Caeconroy, Llanerchyraur, Wood, East Logylas, Cwmstwith, Round Hill, Tamar Consols, Wheal Ludcott, Wheal Langford, Maes-y-rrwd, Coetia Llys, Deep Level, Talacre, Holywell Level, Bodelwyddan, Brynford Hall, Harward United, Orsrod, Merlin, Speedwell, Corrubene, Loech Tay Side, Park, Dylife, Dwyngwm, Rhoswydol and Bacheddin, Llanrwst, Brynsteddof, Bwlch Gwyn, Great Wheal Baden, have sold lead ore.

Great Polgoeth, Treleigh Consols, West Polherro, Leeds and St. Aubyn, Wheal Sidney, Birch Tor, Drake Walls, West Wheal Towan, have sold black tin.

Wh. Trewethen next sampling will, we expect, be 40 tons of copper ore.

The Great Wheal Vor Mining Company have received some splendid stones of ore, obtained from Wheal Metal, in the 60 west. They are well worthy of inspection, and may be seen at the company's offices, 17, Gracechurch-street.

At Herodsfoot Mine, the stopes are yielding some ore both in back of the 119 and the 106; in the former there is one that is worth 10s. ewt., and in the 106 one worth 5 ewt., another 10 ewt., and a third 20 ewt. of ore per fm. The 106 is also driving by the side of a very good lode. In the 82 they expect shortly to cut through a side, and that the lode will then become productive.

At North Wrey Consols, they have a splendid lode in sinking the shaft, from 4 to 5 ft. wide, and, from its appearance, it is likely to yield large quantities of lead-ore. Judging from the locality in which the mine is situated, it is considered to rank with any of the mines by which it is surrounded.

At St. Austell Consols, the new stamping-engine is giving perfect satisfaction; they have 28 heads attached, all in complete working order. The dressing-floors are not quite so forward as could be wished: it is hoped, however, in about a fortnight or three weeks more, to have the greatest part of the floors complete. All the other machinery and general operations are going on well, and without accident.

At the Great Howes United Mines, the exploratory works are progressing with dispatch and success. The report (in the usual place) shows that a lode has been cut in the 66 fm. level, at Northey's shaft, 1 ft. wide, rich for tin. It is further stated that a large quantity of tin ground is found opened at the same shaft in the 66, 76, and 86, which have just been cleared. We are glad to find this mine improving, and the prospects of the mine altogether are very satisfactory.—GEORGE WILSON.

HULL, MARCH 13.—Our market for railway shares is steady, and owing to the confidence that is now felt in an early peace, few are inclined to sell; but the tightness in the money market restricts purchases.—T. W. FLINT AND CO.

MONSTER WROUGHT-IRON ORDNANCE.—We have been compelled to postpone the reply of Mr. Wm. Clay to the remarks of "Hammered Iron," in last week's Journal.

As we have reason to believe some explanation of the position of the proposed Mining Investment Company, from Mr. Evan Hopkins, will appear in our next Journal, the insertion of the letters on that subject is not called for.

and Croft Gothic, Herward United, Kelly Bray, Lelant Consols, Messer, Mount's Bay Consols, North Buller, North Frances, North Wheal Croft, North Wheal Robert, Old Tolgas, Pold-an-dreys United, Penzance Consols, Rosewarne and Herland United, Sithney Wheal Butler, South Buller and West Penzance, South Garras, St. Day United, Swanpool, Tresidder, Treleigh Consols, Tresowarne, Tyne Head, Trinity, United Mines (Tavistock), West Alfred, West Par Consols, West Rosewarne, West Stray Park, West Wheal Frances, Wheal Crebren, Wheal Hender, Wheal Mary Great Consols, Wheal Morgan, Wheal Tidby, Wheal Unity, Wheal Uny, Wheal Ludcott, Wheal Zion, Wood, Yeoland Consols.

MINES WHICH HAVE SOLD ORES.—East Froncog, North Hinstone Consols, North Wrey Consols, South Cudra, South Devon Consols.

In Foreign Mines, the only alteration worthy of notice was in St. John del Rey shares, which experienced considerable depression, in consequence of the unfavourable news received by the last mail, and shares changed hands yesterday at 24s. Imperial Brazilian were rather lower, business being done at 2 to 1 1/2%; National Brazilian, 24s.; Cobre Copper, 6s.; Clarendon Consolidated Mining Company of Jamaica, par to 1/4 prem.; Copiapo closed at 20 to 22; Linares, 7 to 7 1/2%; Pontiagaud Silver-Lead, 12 to 14; United Mexican, 3 1/2 to 4; Royal Santiago, 2 1/2 to 3 1/2.

The Royal Santiago Mining Company held a meeting last week, for the purpose of receiving a report from a committee appointed to confer with the directors, and the manner in which the proceedings were conducted must have been highly satisfactory to all present. The spirit in which the report is drawn up reflects the highest credit upon the gentlemen composing the committee; for, whilst on the one hand it exhibits a most searching enquiry, the utmost anxiety is exhibited not to encroach upon the prerogative of the directors. There appears to be little doubt but, with proper management, this may again become a permanent dividend-paying mine; and it is only necessary to record the fact that, in the early operations of the company, on an outlay of 35,000, the shallow level returned 231,000, in dividends, and the mines may be considered almost unworked, being at the greatest depth only 70 fms. below the adit, and that but in one shaft. The principal difficulty appears from the situation of the property precluding parties in this country from having control over it, as the operations seem not only to have been conducted at an enormous expense, but in a manner unlikely to realise any returns for the shareholders. It must, however, prove satisfactory that the books and correspondence have been kept in a state that met with the entire approval of the committee. The willing response evinced to the call by one of the largest meetings we ever attended, must alter the opinion of those who might hope to have tired out the present proprietors, and stop in and avail themselves of the heavy expenditure already incurred; and we sincerely hope that this company has now arrived at the turning point, and that only a short time will elapse ere they again resume the position of a permanent dividend-paying mine.

At the East Indian Iron Company's adjourned annual meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. R. W. Crawford in the chair), the accounts showed—Balances last audit, 184. 7s. 6d.; Capt. Williams, on account of salary, 394. 19s. 4d.; costs received at Mold, 394. 19s. 4d.; balance of wages due to men, 284. 10s. 4d.; printing, 27. 2s. 2d.; sundries, 1. 7s. 6d.—Calls received, 139. 0s. 8d.; Mr. W. Michell, at Mold, 394. 19s. 4d.; leaving balance against mine, 95. 3s. 6d. A call of 5s. per share was made. It was resolved that the names of all parties in arrear of calls should be given up to the creditors of the mine, to be proceeded against in the County Court, unless the same are paid on or before this day (Saturday). Capt. Trewethen was appointed to succeed Mr. W. Ramson.

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HULL, MARCH 13.—Our market for railway shares is steady, and owing to the confidence that is now felt in an early peace, few are inclined to sell; but the tightness in the money market restricts purchases.—T. W. FLINT AND CO.

MONSTER WROUGHT-IRON ORDNANCE.—We have been compelled to postpone the reply of Mr. Wm. Clay to the remarks of "Hammered Iron," in last week's Journal.

As we have reason to believe some explanation of the position of the proposed Mining Investment Company, from Mr. Evan Hopkins, will appear in our next Journal, the insertion of the letters on that subject is not called for.

LEAD ORES.

Sold on the 29th February.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Trewethen	39	£28 10 0	Sims, Willyams, & Co.
ditto	16	11 10 0	Pontifex and Wood.

Sold on the 7th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Rhoswydol	13	£15 18 6	J. P. Eytyn.
ditto	13	15 18 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
Caeconroy	11	16 9 6	ditto
Llanerchyraur	11	16 2 0	J. P. Eytyn.
Wood Mine	5	17 10 0	Sims, Willyams, & Co.

Sold on the 10th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
East Logylas	110	£16 3 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
Cwmstwith	80	15 0 0	Panther Company.

Sold on the 11th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Round Hill	42	£21 16 0	Walker, Parker, & Co.
Tamar Consols	55	20 10 0	Pontifex and Wood.

Sold on the 12th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Wheal Ludcott	41	£21 12 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
ditto	10	4 0 0	Pontifex and Wood.
Wheal Langford	10 1/2	16 10 0	Sims, Willyams, & Co.

Sold on the 14th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Great Wheal Baden	16	£21 7 6	R. Michell and Son.
ditto	14	8 0 0	ditto

Ticketing at the White Horse Hotel, Holywell, 13th March.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Macryerwrd	95	£16 7 6	J. P. Eytyn.
Caeconroy	81	17 10 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
Deep Level	40	15 12 6	J. P. Eytyn.
Talacre	10	16 16 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
Holywell Level	9 1/2	16 16 6	ditto
Bodelwyddan	17	17 6 6	ditto
Bryndall Hall	8		

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

•• Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

STATISTICS OF THE METAL TRADE.—Mr. Wm. Johnston, metal merchant, of Glasgow, has just completed a very elaborate synopsis of the "Properties and Prices of the Metals chiefly used in the Arts and Manufactures;" and the manner in which he has accomplished that extremely tedious task reflects the highest credit upon his tact and judgment. The sheet presents at one view an immense amount of information, of the greatest utility to all connected with the metal trades—the authorities quoted as having been consulted in its compilation being sufficient guarantee for its accuracy. Amongst the most important features, we may mention a diagram showing the prices of the principal metals on the first Saturday of each month during the last sixteen years, and tables giving the average prices for each year during the same period. There are also tables of the specific gravity, melting point, discoverer's name, and date of discovery of the several metals, with their order of hardness, ductility, malleability, heat-reflecting and heat-conducting powers, electrical conduction, fusibility, tenacity, &c.; the Birmingham zinc and metal gauges, and the modern Belgian zinc gauge, with their dimensions in decimals of an inch; thickness and weight of the several metals, tubing, &c., and their strength and power to resist pressure. The sheet, in fact, contains as much information in a condensed and tabular form as could be gleaned from a large number of books, and tedious research. It will shortly be ready for publication, and may be had at our office, where orders should be forwarded.—Price, on a plain sheet, 15s.; on cloth and rollers, 21s.; pre-paid.

PRACTICAL MINING—NATURAL CURIOSITY.—Sir: Mr. Henwood would greatly oblige by allowing the curious tone he describes in your last Journal to be deposited in some place where persons curious in such matters might see it—say, at your office, or at Henson's, or Tenant's, in the Strand—for a few days. Mr. Henwood's remarks are very judicious, and show an attention to develop natural effects that is too often neglected by those whose attainments they suppose place them above such apparently trifling subjects. I like Mr. Henwood's mode of reasoning, and hope he will favour us with some more papers of a similar character.—A MINE SPECIALIST: *Blackheath, March 10.*

PHOSPHATE OF LIME.—Sir: Some time since an enquiry was made in the Journal as to where this mineral was to be obtained, I beg to inform the enquiring party that on the west shore of Lake Champlain, in the State of New York, a short distance below Ticonderoga, is a vein of mineral phosphate; it has been worked on to some little extent, but the proprietors not knowing how to properly dress it for market, have suspended operations until they can find some party to join them who understand the business. Some of the stuff raised was very rich indeed, yielding over 60 per cent. pure phosphate, and I am informed the average gave over 10 per cent. It has been tried in Vermont with very remarkable success on grass crops, and is supposed by the proprietors to be of general use in agriculture. The vein crops out at surface, and may be mined by an underlay shaft at a cost of 12. 10s. per ton, and dressed up to 20 per cent. for 12. more, making only 2. 10s., or \$12. per ton. Now, the super-phosphate of lime (De Berg's patent) is sold in immense quantities in this country at \$15 per ton; Mr. Davenport, of Boston, is perhaps the largest dealer. Now, if this artificial article is worth \$15, one would suppose the pure mineral phosphate was worth quite as much: if so, why then the mine would pay a great profit. It lies very advantageously for carriage, either by water into Canada, or railroads to Boston or New York, to either place it would not cost more than \$1 per ton. I am personally acquainted with the owners of this property, and if any gentleman in England would desire further information, I will make what enquiries are necessary, and transmit the same to London: a letter addressed to me at Southampton, Massachusetts, will be duly forwarded from there to any part of the States I may be in.—C. S. RICHARDSON: *Southampton, Massachusetts, Feb. 20.*

THE MARQUETTE COMPANY.—A Shareholder (Bristol).—According to the last advice, the Santa Ana, Marimata, and the Purima Mines, were all worked at a profit, notwithstanding, in the latter instance, \$502 was expended for a stamping mill.

BRITISH AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.—The last meeting of this company was very fully reported in the columns of our Journal of April 28 last, and from which it would appear they are still proceeding with operations. Mr. Stephen, vice-president of the Geological Society of Victoria, and F.G.S. of London, the brother of the Lord Chief Justice of Melbourne, was then in attendance, and promised to superintend the company's operations in the colony, free of charge, until they obtained a favourable result. That gentleman has safely arrived at Melbourne, so that some information may shortly be expected.

LONDON AND CALIFORNIA GOLD QUARTZ CRUSHING COMPANY.—"One of the Crushed" should complain of the directors in more temperate language.

WILDBERG MINING COMPANY.—We presume the directors will feel called upon to publish some explanation of the position in which the company stands: why a meeting is not convened; and what are the prospects of its becoming a profitable adventure. Several letters from shareholders received during the week had, therefore, better stand over.

MOSSELLE MINING COMPANY.—Sir: I saw in the Journal some weeks since a notice, stating that the offices of this company were at No. 24, Cannon-street West, City. Being anxious to ascertain some particulars respecting its position and prospects, I called at that address, but, to my great disappointment, found that they had again been removed to no one on the premises knew where. As an interested party, I naturally feel anxious to ascertain where the company has again migrated to, and shall esteem it as a particular favour if any of your readers can enlighten me on this point. It does really seem surprising that a legitimate undertaking, which I take this to be, should be subject to so many fits and starts, never finding a resting place, where proprietors can inquire into the condition of their property.—A. S.

IVYBRIDGE MINING COMPANY.—Sir: In your Journal of Jan. 12, "G. S." of Ashburton, claimed especial credit for the manner in which the accounts were kept, and the general management of the mine conducted. I presume he will not fail attending the forthcoming meeting, and ascertain if his opinions were correctly formed. Let him (according to his own words) investigate all matters connected with the undertaking, and then inform us if all be right, and whether credit or censure be merited. I think the mine likely to prove a lasting property; but what of the management, Mr. G. S.?—A. ROVER: *Tavistock, March 12.*

CARSON CREEK MINING COMPANY.—Sir: It is rumoured in the City and elsewhere that the directors of this company having entrusted the late Mr. Sadler with the 10,000d. remaining in their hands for distribution, the shareholders are not likely to get a penny back. For myself, having bought the shares originally at nearly 50 per cent. premium, such a report is anything but satisfactory, as the affairs of the association might, with ordinary diligence, have been wound-up, and the remainder divided amongst us long since. However, as I can get no information from the office, perhaps the secretary will be kind enough to throw some light on the subject. The report most prevalent is that Mr. Sadler lent the money for the company, giving the security he received, which, I understand, was sent to Ireland shortly after his decease, and, doubtless, the directors by this time are able to give information, if they please.—W. V.: *Newgate-street.*

MINING IN IRELAND.—"An Old Subsister" (City) should procure Griffith's Geological Map of Ireland, published by Forster and Co., of Crown-street, Dublin.

THE PORT PHILIP AND COLONIAL GOLD MINING COMPANY.—"F. E. F."—The last meeting was held at the London Tavern on Feb. 25, and fully reported in our Journal of the 1st inst. The directors upon that occasion presented a very elaborate report, occupying 130 pages, with a full statement of accounts, and numerous engraved sections of the operations. A copy of this document can be obtained by any shareholder, upon application to the secretary, at the offices, No. 17, Gracechurch-street. It will be seen by our Journal of last week, that with regard to quartz-crushing, the resident director had determined upon at once testing the richness of some of the gold-bearing quartz reefs, and was preparing some machinery for that purpose out of materials he had on hand. In the assay office, the quantity melted in October was 25,762 ozs.; Nov., to 22d, 21,926 ozs.

R. J. (Thirk.)—All liabilities must be previously paid, and which can be enforced by legal proceedings.

AUSTRALIAN CORDILLERA GOLD MINING COMPANY.—In reply to a correspondent, who stated that Mr. W. A. Hunt, the secretary and purser, had pledged himself he would procure the books of the company, so that the shareholders may see how the capital of the company has been expended.—Mr. Hunt writes: "I never made such a pledge, because I have not the books in my possession, otherwise I would most gladly comply with the request, which in my opinion is reasonable and fair. What I stated was that I would use my endeavours for their production, and I have done so. At the time of Col. Wooldridge's bankruptcy, he applied to me for all the papers and documents to enable him to prepare his accounts, and he had them all. Your correspondent must have heard, at the various meeting which have been called, that Col. Wooldridge, as managing director, received all the cash, and your correspondent had better address him a letter in the Crimea, where he is at present commanding a brigade of the German Legion, and he will then get an answer; and I hope he will furnish them as it is most unpleasant for me to be obliged, in self-defence, to write all these explanations.—W. A. HUNT: *Keasington.*

NOUVEAU MONDE MINING COMPANY.—The operations at present being carried on by this company are in some extensive silver mines in Guatemala, Central America. The reports appear to be satisfactory, and if the works are conducted with economy, highly favourable results may be expected.

AUSTRALIAN CONSOLIDATED.—Sir: It has been intimated to me that the Chairman returned from Australia some time ago. I have no opportunity of ascertaining the veracity of this information, but should it turn out correct, it is really extremely disagreeable to have been made, in the first instance, cognisant of the fact by a casual correspondent—an unfortunate duped shareholder like myself, who was desirous of learning something about his property abroad, and very naturally applied to the committee of investigation, representing more than half the shares of the company, all of whom declared themselves ignorant of the news stated above. Perhaps some of the paid officials will break a five months' mysterious silence in a few days, or else it may be necessary to remind them that there is a nearer road than Chancery by means of Mr. Lowe's bill, now before Parliament.—H. GUEDALLA: *Paris, March 12.*

NEW COMPANIES, 1856.—Sir: It seems we are to have another quinquennial mania during the present year, being the second edition of the gold mining companies in 1851, but under another phase. There are the same stockbrokers to be seen flouring the new projects of 1/2 per share and upwards, and with scarcely any trouble they pocket 1/2 a share, or 5 per cent. of the paid-up capital. They are, however, expected, in return for this, to get the bantling introduced into the Official Lists of the Stock Exchange; and supposing the capital to be 100,000*l.*, in 1/2 shares, look what their commission amounts to. In justice to the rest of the era, it must be admitted that even this tempting bait is often refused by those who value principle better than filthy lucre. The public, although so often forewarned, will never be forearmed. On the very onset, vast sums are sent by the concoctors in advertisements, which are not confined to the metropolis, but are inserted in numerous provincial journals. In nine cases out of ten the required capital is rarely subscribed for, and in most of them only half or two-thirds; so that these expenses, called preliminary, bear an enormous proportion to the shares taken up. It has been clearly established that one can recover the amount paid, where all the capital asked for has not been subscribed. In good faith, a company ought not to be prodded with where it commences with only limited means; but such is the cupidity of the officials, that after having tasted the sweet, they will never cease till they have sucked them quite dry. In short, one cannot peruse the advertising columns of the *Times* of to-day without feeling satisfied that more than half the new projects have been got up by needy adventurers, ninth-rate stockbrokers, and broken-down lawyers, for the sake of an annuity to themselves and some of their poor relatives, in the shape of clerks or secretaries, who ask no questions as long as they touch regularly their salary.—H. GUEDALLA: *Paris, March 12.*

BLAST FURNACES.—Sir: Would any of your correspondents inform me, through the medium of your Journal, what are the benefits likely to result from calcining the balling and refinery cinders, also limestone, previous to being put on the blast furnaces? I have been frequently recommended to adopt the above process, without any substantial reason; but not seeing any advantage likely to result, I have desisted until now.—A STUDENT.

LANDSDOWN MINE.—"Pontgibaud."—If the writer would, before addressing us, apply to the offices of the company, he could be easily satisfied as to the reality and success of the undertaking. If a shareholder, he would certainly be in possession of the information which, from the letters inserted in our Journal of last and present weeks, is generally known.

WEST WHEAL BOLTON.—Sir: In your last Journal, under this heading, it was stated that "Mr. Walter White, of Exchange-street, Liverpool, has been appointed secretary, in place of Mr. Cardozo, of London, who has been removed, as it is intended to carry on the affairs of the company in Liverpool." Please correct this in your next, as I never held any office under such a company, nor have I ever had anything to do with their "affairs," the mention of my name is, therefore, most unjustifyable.—SAMUEL CARDOZO: *March 14.*

DUNSTON IRON ORE COMPANY.—We must refer our correspondent, "B. D.", to his solicitor for the advice he requires. We have heard that active operations will be commenced forthwith, and it is intended to erect smelting furnaces on the mines.

PUBLICITY IN MINE AFFAIRS.—Sir: I perfectly agree with Mr. Bevan, whose letter appeared in your last Journal, on the benefit of publicity in mining management; for the apathy of shareholders in respect to general meetings is unaccountable, particularly when, immediately afterwards, some one (for the pleasure, I suppose, of seeing himself in your columns) sits to work to injure his own property, that attendance and inspection of the books would leave without excuse; and I begin to think it is for this very reason they do not attend. Holding but few shares in the Devon Burr Burr Mine, it is a matter of indifference to me as to their increase. On the whole, I should prefer seeing them reduced to their real number; but as for the sale of part of the set, I think we require some good advice on this head. Why not employ Mr. Evan Hopkins, Mr. Clement, Mr. Adam Murray, or Mr. Ennor, who is about going his rounds? If it is valueless, there is an end of the matter; if valuable, it appears to me to be worth more to the present holders than any one else; for they are not only on the spot, but have a powerful engine, and everything necessary to work both ends. In this consideration, I, for one, shall be for keeping it to ourselves.—A SHAREHOLDER IN SEVERAL MINES: *March 13.*

"J. S." (Bristol).—The duties of the purser are—a general superintendence of the mine, the purchase of all materials, and the payment of accounts; those of the captain—to set the bargains, whether on tribute or tutwork, to specially supervise underground operations, and, where a dressing agent is not employed, to look after grass work.

ADELAIDE LAND AND GOLD COMPANY.—Sir: I have before addressed you on the management of this company's affairs, and I regret that myself and friends should be yet without any satisfactory statement regarding our position. The announcement in last week's Journal was simply tantalising: who is the gerant, and why does he not communicate some particulars from the information I suppose he receives from the colony? Is he a paid servant of the company—it so, why does he so shamefully neglect his duties? The directors, as usual, appear nonentity; but it is my belief that they will not be on the spot, but have a powerful engine, and everything necessary to work both ends. In this consideration, I, for one, shall be for keeping it to ourselves.—A SHAREHOLDER IN SEVERAL MINES: *March 13.*

"W. E. D." (Darlaston) can obtain what he requires on application of Mr. Weale, scientific bookseller, 39, High Holborn.

SWEEPING GOLD TO THE SURFACE OF QUARTZ.—Sir: How amusing it must be to many experienced and practical men who, having given a lifetime of investigation to the subject, to read the quarrels of the mushroom race of gold extractors. In last week's Journal, Mr. Brooke claims to have invented the process of sweeping quartz, which seems unlikely, as it is well described in Lazarus Ercern's metallurgical works, of which Sir John Petrus' *Fleeta Minor* is a translation, proving that the process was known to the Germans at least 300 years ago. I can myself vouch for its being well known in most parts of the world this last 20 years, and latterly has been tried in California and Australia, but without leading to any successful result. The experiment of sweeping quartz, which any one can perform at his own kitchen stove, is both pretty, tempting, and delusive. Hundreds of gold extractors would each be in a position to pay off the national debt, providing the calculation they have made upon 100 grs. of swept quartz could be carried out upon 100 tons.—JOHN CALVERT: *189, Strand, March 13.*

WILDBERG MINING COMPANY.—Sir: In your last Journal you referred to the management of the Wildberg Mines; as a shareholder, I trust your remarks will bring forth some sort of statement, more particularly as I have learnt from one of the directors they lately gained a cause against the vendors of the mine, thereby saving upwards of 10,000 shares, or 20,000*l.*—S. A.

"S. C." (Tavistock).—Our correspondent must see that a communication of such a personal nature cannot be inserted in our columns: we are willing to allow them to be medium for free discussion, but they cannot be converted into vehicles of abuse.

WHEAL EMMA, AND BUCKFASTLIGH DISTRICT.—Sir: I cannot but think that your correspondent, "A Looker-on," who blames Mr. N. Ennor for pronouncing in favour of this mine and district, now that he has unmistakeable evidence of mineral wealth, shows the absence of that greatness of mind which has caused men of all ranks and ages, of high moral courage, to boldly pronounce their altered opinions the moment that facts have forced conviction upon their mind. Great men, immediately they see their error, do not shrink from declaring their altered views, however opposed they may be to their previous opinions; and I know of no higher standard by which to judge a man than that which dictates the prompt announcement of his altered views to the public. Such a man may, through extreme caution, prevent a friend from suddenly embarking in a valuable mine, but he will never be charged with heedlessly recommending to the public speculations of a doubtful character.—CAUTION: *March 12.*

"H." (Ramsgate).—North Hinstone shares are not quoted, in consequence of there being no market for them, and the prices are merely nominal. In Wheal Friendship (St. Hilary), as the shares are not all taken up, the same remark applies to them.

"A Cornish Man" must judge for himself, as we must decline the responsibility: frequent notices appear in the Journal, which should enable him to form an opinion.

IVYBRIDGE MINE.—Sir: As a meeting of this company is convened for Wednesday, and which I unfortunately cannot attend, I hope the accounts will be thoroughly investigated, and the possibility of a better system of management considered. There appears little doubt that the mine is one of good promise; but without efficient and active management, we cannot possibly expect success to attend our operations.—G. R.: *Tavistock, March 13.*

"S. E. G." (Regent's-park).—Wheal Tremayne has greatly improved lately; the shares have risen from 4*l.* to 6*l.* and 7*l.*, and, at the price our correspondent bought them, he must consider whether they are not worth keeping. East Gunnis Lake, at the present time, is looking well, and the adventure appears promising.

CAROLINE WHEAL PROSPER.—Sir: Feeling interested in this mine, from the reports published in your Journal, I should be glad to be informed where I can obtain some further particulars—the name of the purser, captain, office, &c.—A. M.: *Kensington, March 13.*

"One who knows the District" (Glenmalur).—If true, it is to be deplored that, instead of regular miners, farm labourers have been employed, both as tributes and tutwork men. It cannot be expected that they should have the same ability or experience as those who have been regularly brought up to mining, and followed it the whole course of their life. We believe that Mr. Ennor's remarks are based upon facts. In many instances, we are sorry to perceive that, as our correspondent states, the right men are in the wrong places.

SORTBRIDGE CONS.—Sir: In your last Journal, I find a letter headed "Mining as a Speculation, or Investment," in which the writer takes occasion to notice the monthly costs of working several mines. Sortbridge Consols is one of them, and he shows by comparison the disproportion between it and a mine more than four times its depth. The inference Mr. Ennor draws is that there is something wrong, and that the shareholders should call in some able person to manage matters more economically. I quite agree with the writer; it has long struck me that this mine ought to be in a very different position in the market, looking at the large returns of ore it is making. How, then, is the present depression to be accounted for? Probably because the costs of working are so enormous, that it is doubtful whether the mine can continue on the Dividend List. I think at the next meeting these matters should be thoroughly investigated; and that you will kindly assist in bringing about any reforms, I am fully persuaded.—A COUNTRY SHAREHOLDER: *March 13.*

RED DRAGON MINE.—In answer to numerous correspondents, we find, upon enquiry, that a call of 6*l.* a share will be made for the purpose of liquidating the outstanding liabilities of the company, and finally winding-up the concern.

"Rusticus" (Sortbridge).—Although a mistaken view may have arisen, it would have been much better to have corrected this by common sense refutation than to have treated the matter in a frivolous manner. Assertions, however erroneous they may be, should be answered with calmness, and not with levity; and every cause is injured where the combatants have recourse to personalities.

NORTH CARADON MINE.—Sir: In reply to the enquiries of "A Shareholder" respecting this mine, in last week's Journal, I beg to say the offices are at 27, New Broad-street. The working of the mine having been long since suspended, the duty of the agent is to possess the buildings, and declared the sett forfeited, for the non-fulfilment of the lease; and I have been informed the lease of the freehold has been transferred to Mr. Wade, of Phoenix Mines, and, doubtless, that gentleman would be glad to give any information required.—ANOTHER SHAREHOLDER: *March 13.*

"J. D." (Tavistock).—It is deeply to be deplored that these difficulties and doubts should exist. It is, however, impossible to know what the circumstances may have been. Under so many conflicting statements, it would not be prudent to insert the correspondence, abounding, as it does, in such great personalities. The details of the different settings can be of no importance to the public. The shareholders should have rectified all these shortcomings at the general meetings. It is only when the evil has been greatly augmented, and there appears no other remedy, that shareholders, agents, &c., apply to the *Mining Journal*: while the abuses are being carried on, all are silent; but when any single individual is aggrieved, he flies for redress to our columns, though previously he has allowed our warning voice to pass unheeded.

VALE OF TOW.—In the *Journal* of last week, the latest price of these shares were, by a typographical error, quoted at 1*l.* instead of 1*l.*

TRALEWY MINE.—Sir: My attention has been drawn to several letters that have recently appeared in your Journal, in reference to this mine, and upon which I would, with your permission, make a few remarks. It is asserted by your correspondent, whose letter appeared last week, that "so far from the larger number of shareholders wishing any change in the management, at least as relates to financial matters, and the appointment of a paid secretary, I am aware they are opposed to the measure; and I trust that they, with the help of the local shareholders, will prevent its being carried out." I think I could name one large shareholder, who I believe to be your correspondent, as being opposed to any change; and it is to neutralise the influence that this individual is said to possess, that I approve of the suggestion of "A Shareholder," in his communication of Feb. 29, and do most positively assert that the majority of shareholders resident in London, independent of those dispersed over the country, would approve of the alteration. The suggestion of forwarding the reports direct from the mine to your office, thus placing all shareholders on the same footing with respect to information, comes with peculiar grace from a large shareholder, and has the semblance of being disinterested; but would that prevent a private report being forwarded to him by the purser? by which the most unfair use might be made of it, such things having been acted upon before, and open to repetition. If your correspondent had recommended that a deputation of shareholders resident in London should attend the quarterly meetings on behalf of the out-adventurers, that would be a step in the right direction; but

to talk of appointing auditors from those who reside in the neighbourhood of the mine, whose interest is comparatively trifling (to say nothing of some being merchants who supply the mine), is perfectly preposterous. I must conclude by stating that I have the most entire confidence in the agent to whom the operations on the mine are intrusted.—A SHAREHOLDER: *March 14.*

LANDSDOWN MINE.—Sir: Common honesty to the respected managers of this concern demands that I should confirm the information contained in "A Shareholder's" letter of last week, as to produce raised from this mine, which, at the annual meeting in December, was stated to be, for last year, of the value of \$500*l.*; and, by enquiry, I find that, for the period of working (not yet three years), the whole value of raisings to present time amounts to 10,300*l.*, and the present condition of the property is of a prosaic character. I observe its omission in your list of prices; but that is of little importance, as, if I mistake not, many are quoted there without the slightest pretence to a price, except through "trading," which, with our property, is undesirable—indeed, few transfers, from what I learn, have ever been made, my co-adventurers deeming it too good a speculation, I fancy, to part with cheaply, and too honest in their notions to "rise" the shares up—a practice general enough in this vicinity. "Motto mine—Bide a time."—ANOTHER SHAREHOLDER: *March 13.*

An "Old Troy Fisherman" should have authenticated his communication. **PORT BOWER MINING**

stituted as to its availability to every gradation of commerce and of trade, and to its restrictions of reckless or fraudulent speculation; than that which is now being perfected by Mr. Lowe, and which we hope quickly to see become the law of the land. It is a false compliment to laud any right-minded man for the wish and will to do his duty, but none can withhold from him the homage of respect and admiration for the intelligence and energy with which he applies himself to the public performance of it. Opinion then can be appropriately expressed; and thus frankly and independently we record our high estimation of the great legislative ability and zeal of which Mr. Lowe's introduction of this bill has evidently proved him the possessor; and for the sake of the common weal, it is to be hoped the country will long retain his services.

Here it will not be out of place to recur to the exception made by Mr. Lowe in favour of the Cost-book System, as connected with the mining interest. Conceding to the propriety of representations made to him through the columns of the *Mining Journal*, and by the Vice-Warden of the Stannary Court, he has identified the principle by which British mine operations have been so long regulated with that which constitutes the bill he has framed—one of the wisest measures of reform that has emanated from any Government since 1832.

We should rather have said, Mr. Lowe practically and forcibly recognises the identity that exists, for the *morale* of the law he is about placing on our statute roll is the self-same which made hitherto our mining association a favourable exception to every other system operated under in the sphere of commerce. The primitive simplicity of making bargains according to every man's own judgment and means, and of working out projects according to the natural equity that permits to each a comprehensive view of his position, and thereby endows him with the power of preserving every right inviolate, is, however, admirably adjusted and arranged to suit the complicated varieties of commercial enterprise in which people, in our day, compete and struggle for pre-eminence and independence. The cost-book is now amended and enlarged—Devon participates with Cornwall in its acknowledged advantages. Liability is limited, optionally, under this favourite system of our mining community; and nothing is left to regret except the localising of its jurisdiction. Its principle is universal: could not its influence be extended throughout the United Kingdom, wherever mining industry is prosecuted? True, the constitution of certain courts might be in somewise interfered with, and would have to be re-modelled—a task attended with considerable expense and inconvenience; but, on the other hand, there would be an equalisation of mining law; and as this industry is *sui generis*, and singularly exceptional in its details, the results would be beneficial. In every other country, fortunate enough to possess mineral resources, there is a defined mining code. Why should there not be in England? This may be a question for another day; nor should we like to pursue it now, as in our great appreciation of the merits of the bill now in progress, we desire to see before it a way clear and unimpeded.

The amendments introduced into the Stannary laws include extension of process to non-metallic minerals, when with the metallic they are found in the same site of enterprise. Suits by pursers, by creditors against pursers, and by adventurers, can be prosecuted in any part of England and Wales. Service of process can be completed through the County Court of any district, and execution of decrees effected through the superior courts, if necessary. County Court causes, involving mining interests, can be remitted to the Vice-Warden's Court, and such judge can act as one of the arbitrators in any submitted cause. He is also empowered to act as a justice of the peace for the county of Cornwall. Law clerks of the Duchy of Cornwall may act as solicitors in all courts. A list of shareholders is to be produced within 14 days application of the Court, under the penalty of having the defaulting company disqualified under the cost-book. Penalties are also to be levied on the managers of mines in default of proper returns of minerals, &c., as required by law. Such amendments and jurisdiction apply both to Cornwall and Devon, and shall be more particularly noticed. In fact, the wise inter-legislation which has brought this long-required measure to an issue is self-evident, and enhances the value of the Partnership Bill to the country. The cost-book, then, can at last define the liability of the companies who shall think fit to adopt it, and this alone dissipates all the arguments, or at least the majority, that have hitherto been advanced against it, and the justice of which even its advocates not unfrequently found themselves compelled to admit. However, those anomalies now cease—for the power given to amalgamate with it the provisions which, with limited liability, enjoin a strict adherence to corporate rules and regulations, puts all our ancient diversity of opinion on this point at an end; and this being the case, investment in mining property will be as free from those casualties that have so scared the cautious capitalist, as any one of the mediums whereof he has hitherto taken advantage. This is a fortunate issue of affairs; for a large amount of capital hitherto tied up, and much of that which has been directed into other channels, will be applied to the development of pure mineral resources; and the impetus such outlay will create cannot fail to be beneficially felt in our mining districts, particularly in those partially proved.

It is unnecessary further to refer to the simplicity of the forms required for the registration of companies desiring to operate with limited liability; they have already appeared in our leading columns, and have been ably classified by a correspondent: sufficient now is it to urge the agents and officials of mining companies to make themselves thoroughly conversant with every feature of the requirements. The formulae are simple, and, therefore, easily understood.

With reference to the mining prospects of the United Kingdom at this moment, it would be impossible to recall a time when operations were conducted with more caution, and more scientifically. An emulative spirit of management predominates throughout; and the successful results which have followed the opening of new mines in various districts combine to give a status on the market to mining property which it has never before occupied. Technically speaking, such property is "looking up," and is likely to continue in the ascendant. In Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, the mining industry is progressing most satisfactorily, and it is but rational to contemplate a future of still more cheering prospects, and of great and continued prosperity.

When the rival republics of Genoa and Venice were the carriers of Europe, England was not known as a commercial nation. During the feudal times the energies of the land were devoted to foreign wars and intestine broils; and it may be said that until the expulsion of the Stuarts, trade was but little regarded in Great Britain. So soon, however, as the revolution of 1688 occurred, the attention of our merchants and capitalists was drawn to the importance of developing the resources the country possessed: the Bank of England was established, and numerous companies projected, among which was the Company of Copper Miners in England, the only one which now remains from that period. With legitimate enterprise, the spirit of speculation likewise followed; and at that period disastrous failures took place, and ruin was entailed upon hundreds. The South Sea bubble, with its disastrous consequences, is a matter of history. In our own time, we have seen the vast sums which have been recklessly expended in the manias of 1825, 1835, 1845, and the gold mining excitement is too recent almost to need any reference here. Out of the whole of the Californian companies there are but two still dragging on a lingering existence, which has merely been prolonged by the energy of the directors, the patience of the shareholders, and the fertility of excuse displayed by the superintendents. The Australian associations are in no better condition: no further allusion is requisite to be made to them, as their career of mismanagement and incompetence is too well known and sensibly felt by those who invested their money in these rash and unfortunate undertakings. We will not, however, refer to the past, but will rather look to the present; and recent events have shown us that the demon of reckless and fraudulent speculation is rife amongst us. Little can be said of our commercial honesty, and the morality of those who conduct our affairs, when we consider how men, supposed to be of business habits and high standing, have proved themselves to be guilty of gross frauds and forgeries; but a few years since these could only be exonerated by the extreme sentence of the law; the Legislature, however, now takes a more lenient view, and that which would have been death is now commuted to penal servitude.

It is generally rumoured that the issue of the Paris Conferences will be "peace." We earnestly trust that such will be the case; no one is more desirous than we are to see the termination of the present struggle, involving, as it has done, not only such a vast expenditure of money, but likewise an enormous sacrifice of life to all the belligerents. If this be honourably attained, we would fain see our swords turned into sickles and ploughshares, and the great amount of men and *materiel* would be better and more profitably employed in following the arts of peace than prosecuting the horrors of war.

At the present time, notwithstanding the heavy burdens imposed upon

all classes, there is a great quantity of unemployed capital in England. The recent Limited Liability Act will greatly facilitate the formation of companies for joint-stock purposes. Already, without enumerating banks, there are projects in the field for schemes of every description, some of which appear to have been most speciously framed and artfully concocted. There is, no doubt, a wide field for the employment of money; and, if judiciously applied, ample returns may be obtained for any sum legitimately invested. Unfortunately, we have but too lately seen that men, supposed to be of the highest integrity, have unblushingly lent themselves to frauds of the grossest character; and, therefore, in many instances the public cannot have a guide to invest from the character of the directors. In some cases there may be a guarantee, but, under all circumstances, caution should be exercised, and those projects eschewed where elaborate statements are drawn out, comprising minute calculations, together with large profits, and a reserve fund.

Although the prospectus may contain the names of pauper peers, decayed baronets, the younger sons of nobility, with a sprinkling of men of business, and an astute solicitor, let the public judge for themselves. Above all, they must not trust to their own cupidity, and the desire to become suddenly rich without the necessary toil to obtain such a commutation. It is patent, that as soon as the aspect of the political horizon is correctly ascertained, numberless companies will be ushered into the light of day. We do not condemn all these as worthless; we merely, as a matter of duty, wish to utter a caution to those who might carelessly plunge into any ill-advised adventures, which would end in beggarizing themselves and enriching the knaves who had, by their specious and exaggerated statements, held out hope which they knew could never be realised, and only been framed for the purpose of plundering their dupes.

THE JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES ACT—No. VI.—COST-BOOK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR,—The 31st of March current is the day appointed for the Committee of the House of Commons on the new bill, whose progress I shall watch and report to you. Correlative to questions arising in connection with the Cost-book System, is that of the amendment and extension of the laws of the Stannary Court jurisdiction of Cornwall over the sister county, Devon, as by Act of Parliament passed last June, and which I believe was ably adverted to in one of your subsequent Journals.* I propose to offer a brief *résumé* of the advantages now enjoyed by Devon, in common with Cornwall, by the enlargement of the original powers and privileges; and it would, indeed, rejoice me greatly could they be so perfected as to admit of the whole of England and Wales within the limit of their jurisdiction; not but that the "Bill" will answer every feasible and wise purpose; still, as such an inestimable principle as the cost-book survives, and generally availed of for mining purposes, its great efficiency would not be impaired in the universal use of its well-earned attributes. To proceed *seriatim* is my object; therefore, first the amendment, and next the extension:—

1. MIXED MINERALS.—Process of Court extends to and exercised over non-metallic as well as metallic minerals, where both are found in the same sett of an adventure. *Plumbago*, or blacklead, is hereby declared to be a metallic mineral.

2. SUITS BY PURSERS.—Process may be served by order of the equity side of the Court, against a defendant in any part of England and Wales, for contribution to calls. Plaintiffs may associate several adventurers in one petition, for recovery of their several contributions.

3. SUITS BY CREDITORS, OR ADVENTURERS.—Process may also be served against the purser, or other chief agent or adventurers, in any part of England and Wales, to enforce payment of debts; and any adventurer may separately, or jointly with another, have power to defend such suits; and if the sale of ores, machinery, materials and effects, for the time being, belonging to adventurers, be insufficient to meet such demands, power is given to apportion the balance of unsatisfied debts, costs, and expenses, amongst all the adventurers and persons so liable, according to shares held; and all Cost-books and Registers of Transfer must be produced for that purpose.

4. SUITS BY ADVENTURERS.—Process, as previously provided, may be served in any part of England and Wales on adventurers, or their personal representatives; and in case of death, or not known at address, such service is complete if served on the mine in the usual way, or at the principal office or house of business, notice of which is to be addressed, by post, to the last known address of said adventurer, except in case of decease, when decree shall be binding upon the representative, as with regular service.

4. SERVICE OF PROCESS out of Stannaries may be sent to the High Bailiff of the County Court in the district where such is to be served, and such service may be proved as in case of County Court process.

5. EXECUTION OF DECREES.—Decrees or judgments on the common law side of Court whereof it has cognizance, but which cannot be effectually enforced, may be remitted to a superior court of common law at Westminster, for recovery of amounts due on the same, and in the case of these on the equity side of court to the High Court of Chancery for recovery.

6. SUITS PENDING IN COUNTY COURTS.—Causes touching the usages or customs of mining or mines, or incidents of cost-book partnership, pending before a judge of County Court within the Stannaries, may be remitted, under certain conditions, to the Vice-Warden for trial.

7. ARBITRATION.—Parties to suit may have cases referred to arbitration, or the Vice-Warden may act as such arbitrator.

8. VICE-WARDEN'S COURT may be held or adjourned to any place within the Stannaries, for the purpose of hearing witnesses, or taking evidence.

9. SHAREHOLDERS IN MINES.—All mines on the Cost-book System shall be bound to produce, on application of an adventurer, through the Vice-Warden, list of all shareholders, their names, addresses, and number of shares held—and further, the time they became such shareholders—within 14 days from application, and, in default, the Vice-Warden is empowered to declare that such partnership is not constituted on the Cost-book System.

10. PENALTIES OF MANAGERS.—Levied upon all head managers of mines in default of their returning the metals, minerals, or value thereof, as required by law.

11. VICE-WARDEN, A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.—Is empowered to act as Justice of the Peace for the county of Cornwall, although not qualified by estates, lands, &c., as enjoined by law for other justices.

12. LAW CLERK OF THE DUCHY OF CORNWALL may act as attorney or solicitor in all courts.

13. STANNARIES OF CORNWALL AND DEVON UNITED.—The jurisdiction of the Court of the Vice-Warden is extended and exercised over the county of Devon, mines and miners therein, and process of said Court, both at common law and in equity, shall run in and be executors throughout the counties of Devon and Cornwall. And procedure, as lawfully exercised in the Stannaries of Cornwall (subject to amendments contained in or authorised by this Act, and to other lawful rules and orders of the Court), shall be adopted, used, and enforced in and throughout the Stannaries and county of Devon, and the Stannaries of the said two counties are, for purpose of Stannary jurisdiction, one entire district; and the present and all future Vice-Wardens shall be Vice-Wardens of the Stannaries of and for both counties, and shall have therein all the like powers, privileges, authority and jurisdiction over and in respect of mines, miners, and causes arising therefrom, in Devon as in Cornwall, provided that the common law jurisdiction of Devon shall be confined to causes relating to mines or products thereof, or work connected therewith; or to working and management thereof, or supply of materials, money, necessities, or performance of work and labour to, for, or in respect of such mines or works; or customs of mining or miners, or shares or interests in any mine or adventure in mines.

14. PUNISHMENT OF FRAUDS.—Miners in Devonshire shall be liable to same punishment as in Cornwall.

15. VICE-WARDEN'S SITTINGS IN DEVONSHIRE.—Four times in each year, by adjournment from Truro or otherwise, at Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, so soon as it shall appear to the Council of the Duchy of Cornwall that the revenue annually arising from assessment on mines in Devonshire yields 320*l.* over and above the expense of collection.

16. COLLECTORS IN DEVONSHIRE to have 30*l.* per annum.

17. JURORS' QUALIFICATION.—For jury trials, in actions, suits or plaints on the common law side of Court in Devon, or in issues from the plaintiff, shall be by persons qualified to serve as jurors before the justices of Assize and nisi prius in said county.

18. ASSESSMENT OF MINES.—The assessment and its collection, as in Cornwall, to be observed in Devon, of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in 1*l.* on value of all metals and minerals, and to be collected at the end of three months from the passing of the Act, provided that if at any time there remains on hand a balance sufficient to meet all authorised payments for the succeeding half-year, the suspension of assessment shall take place as in Cornwall.

* See *Mining Journal* of July 21, 1855, in which an elaborate abstract of the Act was published.

19. EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE COURT IN DEVONSHIRE.—Whenever it shall appear to the Council of the Duchy of Cornwall that a sufficient fund is provided in the Stannaries of Devon for the establishment of a separate and permanent court, such to be erected on the model of the court as now constituted in Cornwall.

Having endeavoured shortly, but I trust satisfactorily, to extract the pith of the amendment and extension of the Cost-book System, I should wish to address one word to the shareholders of mines in Devonshire—viz., that as they now possess all the privileges, and also are amenable to the Vice-Warden's Court of Cornwall, in its unity with Devon, it behoves them to remember that any default in payment of their calls may be summarily dealt with, as heretofore, in Cornwall—a provision which, I fear, has escaped too many of the adventurers in young but promising mines.

Devon-street, Hammersmith-gate, March 14. W. VERNON VENABLES.

A VOICE FROM THE CITY, ON MINES AND MINERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR,—Amongst the time honoured, but now useless, institutions of by-gone times, not the least important to business men of the present day is that of the sworn brokers of the City of London, founded at a time when the principles of free trade were yet unexpounded, and governed by laws which might have been sufficiently appropriate under the rule of Queen Anne, but which in these days of extended and varied commercial enterprise are indefensible and inoperative, the confederacy continues to vegetate, under the paternal care of the Corporation of the City of London, governed still by the same antiquated laws, and supported more as a source of corporate revenue than as a public institution, calculated to provide for the exigencies of a public necessity. In order that a man should become a sworn broker, if he be not a freeman of the City, either by birth or indenture, he must purchase his freedom from one of the City guilds of craftsmen, and the company usually chosen is that of the spectacle makers, which is easy of access, owing to their necessitous condition. Having done this, and A B having become a full-fledged citizen and spectacle maker, he has to swear corporate allegiance, to obtain two sureties in moderate sums for his good behaviour, and is required, in addition, to execute a bond in his own behalf for a sum of something like 500*l.*, and he is thenceupon formally admitted into the confederacy by the Court of Aldermen, and is furnished with a printed copy of the brokers' laws, and a silver badge, which he is bound to carry about his person, and produce on the demand of any person with whose business he may happen to be entrusted, as a proof of his identity; such is the *rationale* of the proceedings.

In London, every person who buys and sells for another, on commission, any marketable commodity must be a sworn broker. Were the laws to which the brokers are obliged to conform sufficiently liberal and business-like in their text, as indicating a body of men thoroughly conversant with the articles in which they dealt, and as affording some guarantee, in the shape of money security, against peculation or fraud. Whereas, on the contrary, it is generally found that, in the case of a broker being prosecuted for a breach of trust, his sureties are either missing, or are found to be quite unable to comply with the terms of their agreement.

Repeated and energetic protests have been made by gentlemen holding high commercial positions, against the impracticability of the brokers' laws, as applied to modern commerce, but without effect; and it may be, therefore, interesting to note the position in which mining brokers stand to the mining public, promising that the mine shareholders are extremely few in number when compared with the list of agents and dealers. A broker's duties may be thus defined:—He is not allowed to carry on, or be concerned in, any other business than that in which he professes to act; and in that particular walk, he is not allowed to buy or sell on his own account, nor even to put the property of his clients in his own name for a single hour, although such a course might facilitate the conduct of a business transaction. He is bound to buy or sell at the closest market price after the receipt of instructions; and, moreover, must enter the particulars in full of each separate transaction in his broker's book, for the inspection of any client who may be doubtful as to the straightforwardness of the transaction; and, in default of any of these things, is liable to sundry pains and penalties, at the discretion of the Court of Aldermen, who, if the affair be sufficiently serious, can instruct the City Solicitor to prosecute, *pro bono publico*, in one of Her Majesty's courts of law or equity. It will thus be seen, that apart from the lumbering laws by which brokers are trammeled, their duties to their clients are sufficiently simple and explicit, and were they carried out with an equal degree of candour and good faith, would afford the public a ready means of making their investments with a reasonable chance of future profit. But, unfortunately, this is not the case. In heavy stocks, such as Consols and railway shares, where the price is ascertainable at any given period of the day, it is by no means easy for a broker to obtain more than his legal profit, even supposing that he felt so inclined. But, in mine shares, where the value notoriously fluctuates, it is obvious that the means of taking more than one profit in shares are materially increased, and is often

nothing is more easy, for a broker dealing on his own account, than to put the shares into some other name, and enter the transaction in his books in the ordinary way. A system of joint account is also frequently resorted to, as follows:—A B, a broker, and C D, a dealer, determine to purchase certain shares on joint account, the stock is bought by A B, is by him transferred to C D, and is then disposed of by either of them on a system of mutual participation in the accruing profit or loss; and in many other ways can this system of dealing and brokering be carried on, to the manifest loss of that portion of the broker's clients who may favour him with instructions to purchase any of the particular shares in which he may have a personal interest. But the mischief does not end here, as it is obvious that all the broker's argumentative abilities would be brought into play in order to induce his clients to make such purchases, and so secure to himself a very large and illegal profit.

That such things as these are daily practised is undoubtedly; but it is by no means an easy matter to trace an unfair transaction home to the delinquent. I have informed the public as to a broker's duties and responsibilities, and have made known a few of their malpractices, in the hope that in looking more narrowly after their own interests, they may not only benefit themselves, but also the entire mining community.

March 14.

JUNIUS.

THE MINING AND INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS OF CORNWALL.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN WEST CORNWALL.]

MARCH 13.—The mining market is, this week, particularly dull. Scarcely any business has been transacted either in dividend mines or in those which have the appearance of approaching a dividend state. There are a few enquiries as to the latter class, but reduced prices must be submitted to before sales can be made. It is hoped that a change for the better will at no distant period take place in the money market, and an improved state of things be produced. Some attention has been directed to Condurrow by the manifest improving condition of the mine. Rickard's Wheal Rose, in which some transactions have taken place of late, is flatter, shares having fallen; and the same is the case with Hender, and some other hopeful mines, which in times of mining activity are of a class that are usually much dealt in by persons of small capital.

The introduction into Parliament of the new Partnership Bill has naturally drawn attention to some of the defects of the Cost-book System, and occasioned discussion thereon amongst mine shareholders. Amongst other things, it is said that the Cost-book System should imperatively define the intervals that should elapse between each meeting for the audit of accounts. The general practice with copper mines is to have two-monthly, and with tin and lead mines three-monthly meetings; but there are many exceptions, the intervals between the meetings being sometimes extended to four, five, or even six months. This is a great error in mine management; for nothing is so well calculated to secure an honest and economical management as two-monthly or quarterly meetings, and no other regulation is so well adapted to throw open to the shareholders and the public the real condition of the property. Where the meetings have been less frequent, deceptive reports, in many cases which might be mentioned, have cheated both the general body of shareholders and the public, who have suffered, whilst a few have benefited by selling out at much higher prices than the shares would have made if a two-monthly account had shown the financial position of the mine. And not only do frequent meetings place a check upon deceptive reports, they also place a very wholesome check upon the purser's disbursements of the cash he receives, whether from calls or sales of ore. It has been discovered, in some in-

stances, that pursers have kept back, for a time, payment of merchant's bills, which have been charged to the adventurers, and calls levied for their discharge, in order to apply the money to their own necessities in paying calls in other mines, eventually refunding the money to the mine to which it belonged. This is a practice, of course, fraught with dangerous consequences, and which shareholders should repress as soon as they become acquainted with it. Two-monthly meetings do not allow this practice to be carried so far as when the meetings are held at longer intervals, because of the risk of discovery; though it must be confessed, that unless there is a mine auditor, the risk of discovery is not very great, owing to the imperfect manner in which the accounts, generally speaking, are audited when they are laid before a general assembly of the shareholders. A paid auditor, having sufficient time to scrutinise the accounts previously to the meetings, could scarcely fail to detect any misapplication of funds; and the knowledge of his scrutiny would generally deter from any such misapplication. If, therefore, adventurers do not, in all cases, appoint an auditor to look after their accounts, they alone are to blame for the neglect. What I wish, however, at present more particularly to represent is, the imperfection of the Cost-book System is not imperatively requiring that mine meetings should be called either two-monthly or quarterly, under the penalty, in default, of losing the privileges of that system. The frequent meetings which are now the practice of most of the large mines in Cornwall, should be insisted upon as a practice to be adhered to by all cost-book mines.

The Vice Warden of the Stannaries announced, during the recent sittings of his Court, that he should promulgate the new rules of Court before the next quarterly sittings. These new rules, he intimated, had been in a great measure prepared, but required modifications, in consequence of the new Partnership Bill. There is no doubt that the new rules will be well considered, and carefully adapted to the peculiarities and exigencies of mining enterprise.

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

MARCH 14.—The Iron Trade is generally less firm than it was, although the Yorkshire and Derbyshire houses are not much affected by the diminished demand complained of in Staffordshire; and, indeed, this affects only the makers of inferior iron in that county, the makers of established brands being well employed. Good bars cannot be bought below 9*l*. per ton at the works; hoops from 20*s*. to 30*s*. above the price of bars. Messrs. Samuel Beale and Co., of Park Gate, Rotherham, are rolling a considerable quantity of heavy plate for gun-boats, a feat which requires very great skill and ability, the attempt in other hands having proved unsuccessful. Pigs have declined in price, and until the shipments improve will not recover from their depression. We are, however, still of opinion that the advance of spring will restore this branch of the trade from its decline.

The traffic on railways for the past nine weeks is highly encouraging to shareholders, as well as merchants and manufacturers, as it shows a remarkable increase in the trade of the country. The reports of traffic upon ten of the leading lines of railway, exhibit an increase of about 215,000*t*., as compared with the receipts for the same period last year. The lines referred to are the London and North-Western, the North-Eastern, Midland, Eastern Counties, Great Western, Great Northern, South-Eastern and Dover, Lancashire and Yorkshire, London and South-Western, and London and Brighton Railways, which comprise 3750 miles; and we think no better criterion can be obtained of the generally prosperous condition of our commerce.

The Coal Trade in Yorkshire and Derbyshire, as well as Staffordshire, is in a most inactive state, and there must be a reaction from the high prices which have ruled for so great a length of time. The colliers are not working more than two or three days per week at most pits. In those cases where they are making their ordinary time, a reduction of wages has been, or is about to be, made. The intention of working short time is no doubt to reduce stocks, with which all the coal markets are now glutted, and to maintain prices, which must fall soon, unless the present demand be materially increased.

The new Act for the Prevention of Accidents in Collieries has worked well in these counties; and the new inspector, Mr. Hedley, is very well liked by the coal-masters, for his straightforward conduct and punctual business habits. A case of considerable importance to coal owners was heard at Wakefield, on Monday. It was an information preferred by Mr. C. Morton, Government Inspector, against Mr. Benjamin Roberts, of the West Ardsley Colliery, near Wakefield, who was charged with omitting to give notice to the Secretary of State of a fatal accident which had occurred at his colliery, and with neglecting to form special laws for the guidance of persons employed at his colliery. The first charge was withdrawn on the defendant pleading guilty; for the non-establishment of rules he was fined 5*l*., and a nominal penalty in other cases, with costs. Mr. Morton said the object of the proceedings was not to extract money from Mr. Roberts, but the publicity of this case would be a caution to others.

Four lives have been sacrificed this week in collieries in Yorkshire and Derbyshire. Two men, named Wild and Steel, were executing some repairs to the shaft of a pumping-engine, at Messrs. Hudson's coal pits, at Stanley, near Wakefield, and were standing on a platform, which gave way, and they were both killed. A man has been killed at the Staveley Collieries by the fall of a bind; and another fell out of an empty chair at a colliery at Pinxton, Derbyshire, as it was ascending the shaft, and he was killed instantaneously.

A very interesting distribution of prizes, given by iron and coal masters in South Staffordshire, to the children of miners, took place on Tuesday; and we should heartily rejoice at seeing a similar distribution take place in Derbyshire. A large number of prizes were distributed, and the institution of the system has been attended with the best moral, religious, and intellectual results.

A very important meeting of the promoters of Patent Law Reform was held in Manchester, on Tuesday, to petition Parliament, and memorialise the Patent Law Commissioners, to allow the large sum which had accumulated under the Patent Law Amendment Act of 1852, to be appropriated to a further reduction of the stamp duties now paid for obtaining royal letters patent for inventions. The meeting was well attended, and resolutions were carried in conformity with the object of the meeting.

Mr. W. Broomhead and Mr. Higginbottom, two shareholders in the Fireclay Mining Company, Derbyshire, were summoned, by Mr. R. Bentley, the secretary, in the Bakewell County Court, last week, one for non-payment of 4*l*. 7*s*. 7*d*., due for calls on the proprietors. The claim was not objected to, but a demur was made to the payment of 3*s*. 4*d*. for a lawyer's letter. The jurisdiction of the County Court was proved under one of the articles of the Mineral Customs and Mining Act, for the King's Field, Derbyshire, so that the defendants had no alternative but to pay the amount claimed. The other defendant took advantage of the manner in which this case terminated, and he paid the claim against him without the case being heard.

STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.]

MARCH 13.—A gradual advance took place in the prices of Government and Bank Stocks this week, and Consols are fully 1*l*. per cent. higher than I last reported them; a large amount of business has also been done. Shares have also advanced this week, but only in a slight degree, the principal advances being in Mining Company of Ireland, and Wicklow Copper Mine shares, the latter being 1*s*. higher. In Railway Shares there was no change worth notice. The following are the latest quotations:—Consols, 91*l*. money; New Three per Cent., 91*l*.; Bank Stock, 22*l*.; Hibernian Bank, 31*l*.; National Bank, 30*l*.; Royal Bank, 20*l*.; Grand Canal Company (ex. div.), 38*l*.; National Insurance, 26*l*.; Consumers' Gas Company, 8*l*.; Lackenay Mining Company, 2*l*. 6*s*.; Mining Company of Ireland, 1*l*.; Wicklow Copper Mine, 3*l*.; Belfast and Ballymena Railway, 47*l*.; Belfast Junction (ex. div.), 42*l*.; Dublin and Drogheda (ex. div.), 61*l*.; Dublin and Kingstown Stock, 15*l*.; Dublin and Wicklow, 5*l*.; Great Southern and Western (ex. div.), 52*l*.; Midland Great Western, 5*l*.; Waterford and Kilkenny, 3*l*.

The general annual meeting of the Dublin Chemical Society was held last evening, in the Royal Dublin Society's house, and was attended by many of the learned and scientific of the city. This reunion was merely for the purpose of receiving the report and the president's address, and for conveying the society's thanks to those who so ably conducted its affairs during the past year, and principally to the distinguished professor of the society, Mr. Cameron, for the extraordinary tact, ability, and zeal, with which he has discharged the duties of his office. It was stated, that

he is at present a candidate for the vacant Professorship of Chemistry in the Queen's College, Galway; and the singular ability which Mr. Cameron displays in imparting to others that knowledge which he so largely possesses, is a qualification which eminently fits him for that important post; and those who are acquainted with his qualities will be glad to see him occupy that position which his talents and industry entitle him to, and where he can be of such great use to his country, which is now making gigantic strides towards improvement; and the great diffusion of knowledge which of late years has taken place has not failed to arouse our people from the slumber of ages, and to infuse a spirit of individual self-reliance and exertion, which will by-and-bye sweep in collective strength onward to prosperity.

The usual monthly meeting of the Dublin Geological Society was held last evening, Lord Talbot de Malahide presiding. The Rev. Prof. Haughton brought under the notice of the meeting an interesting boulder, from Bandon, co. Cork; it was of selenite, composed of pinkish felspar and green hornblende. About 12 months ago, he drew attention to a boulder of this selenite, found at Silvermines, co. Tipperary, and the present discovery seemed to show that they were extensively distributed over the country. Mr. Kelly then read his paper of "Researches on the Palaeozoic Rocks of Ireland, with a view to determine the Limits of the Old Red Sandstone." Mr. Kelly's paper, which entered into a long and careful investigation of its subject, was listened to with marked attention, and drew forth highly complimentary remarks from some of the members present, on the accurate character of the information given.

It is a subject of much gratification that the works of the Beet Root Sugar Company at Mountmellick are again brought into operation, after having been for a considerable time suspended, owing, I believe, to want of funds; and some sugar of very excellent quality has been produced, and lately sent to market. The public must watch with intense interest the development of schemes such as this, calculated as they are to raise up the condition of our country, and to place it in honourable rivalry with our more fortunate neighbours. Every Irishman should put his shoulder to the wheel, and should give encouragement by heart and hand to any project that will give the people employment, and render the products of our country available for those different purposes of manufacture to which they are so peculiarly fitted.

Tuesday next has been fixed as the last day for sending in the designs for the Moore Testimonial. I understand that several are already in the field, and that there will be a talented competition for the honour due to the successful contributor. One design which I have seen, by Mr. Richard Reilly, of this city, is most perfect in all its details, as well as in the general effect; it is simple and beautiful, and presents an appearance of solidity, combined with chasteness of outline and elegance of construction; the base being supported by the Irish wolf-dog, with the harp in the centre.

THE METAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS ON THE CONTINENT.

[FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.]

MARCH 12.—In stating, in the last letter, that the settlement had passed off more easily than was anticipated, your correspondent was not then aware, any more than the public, of the extent to which assistance had been rendered to tide speculators for the difficulty; or, in plain English, to enable them to wait until the state of affairs is more prosperous. The Credit Mobilier advanced no less than eighty millions of francs, or upwards of three millions sterling, to the Chambre Syndicale; and it is probable that no less than three times as much was furnished by banks and capitalists, to enable our speculators on 'Change to carry over their transactions. Such a state of things is most unsatisfactory for those who look upon the question in its general bearings. It may naturally be asked, since these loans are made on very heavy interest, how is it possible to avoid serious ultimate loss? Had peace occurred previously, there would have been such an affluence of sellers that nothing could have staved off a most disastrous crisis. Even as it is, the future is threatening and uncertain. Government itself is not without apprehension at the extraordinary development of speculation here. The calls upon French capital for enterprises abroad are heavy and numerous. Then there are railway extensions, and new railways at home, with a whole host of industrial companies; and, lastly, there are the Government loans, that require 35 millions of francs, nearly 1*l*. millions sterling, a month—all crying, like the horse leech's daughter, "Give, give, give." Capital, in France, will have enough to do to meet all demands, without gambling on 'Change. As stated above, this has also occurred to the Government here, for last Sunday's *Moniteur* contained an announcement, which although it did not appear in the official portion of the paper, is nevertheless of official origin, to the effect that new companies are every day springing up, and that it is the duty of Government to resist these exaggerated tendencies, which may compromise undertakings already launched, and inflict a serious blow on public credit. The Emperor has decided, that whatever may be the results of the present negotiations, Government will keep with the reserve imposed, and that no new enterprise, which will give rise to the issue of new stocks, will be authorised during the course of the present year. So here is an abrupt, and to some no doubt disagreeable, termination to the golden visions of our schemers. One long year must they wait before they can submit their speculations to the public. In spite of this decision of the powers that be, it will be found extremely difficult to restrain speculation. How are French capitalists to be prevented from dabbling in foreign enterprises? And it would certainly be far more beneficial if some effective means were adopted to prevent that wholesale gambling on 'Change to which allusion has before been made, and which is the ruin of thousands upon thousands. The public might be left free to dabble in industrial ventures; for here they seldom occasion great losses, and carry with them their own corrective. All the more is this announcement to be regretted, because it will operate most seriously to the discouragement of mining enterprise in France. It is but very lately that public attention has been directed to these kinds of undertakings here; and now, when there is an awakening desire to embark in them, it is repressed. As might be anticipated, after the assistance afforded, there is great fluctuation in stocks and railway securities to chronic, although there is a general tendency to fall. The 3 per Cent. has fallen from 73*l*. 45*s*. to 72*l*. 60*s*. Credit Mobilier from 1587*l*. 50*s*. to 1570*l*. The Credit Foncier has risen from 670*l*. to 675*l*. In Railway Shares—the Northern have risen from 985*l*. to 990*l*.; Lyons stand at 125*l*. 50*s*.; Western from 875*l*. to 895*l*. The Parisian Gas Company has fallen 35*s*. per share—that is, to 785*l*. In the Metal Markets there has been, within the last few days, a cessation in the activity that previously reigned: even they, at last, feel the effects of uncertainty consequent upon the doings of the Congress here. In Champagne, cast-iron is quoted at 195*l*. the 1000 kilos; ditto, for castings, 200*l*.; rolls, first-class, 390*l*.; rods, 480*l*.; forged, demi-roches, coal iron, 425*l*. to 430*l*.; forged charcoal iron, demi-roches, 440*l*. to 445*l*. the 1000 kilos. In the Moselle, where the production of charcoal iron is very extensive, and the mines of Aumetz and Audun-le-Tiche are very important, the iron masters have contracted to sell the whole of their productions for the year. The latest purchase, to the extent of 40,000*t*., gave the average of 215*l*. the 1000 kilos. Forged iron, for plates, 440*l*. to 450*l*. the 1000 kilos. The French artillery, land and sea, is principally supplied from this district. The iron masters in the Loire and South adopted the following prices last December:—Rolls, 1st-class, 375*l*.; hoops, 465*l*.; bands, 525*l*.; half bands, 495*l*.; rods (soft iron), 425*l*.; ditto, mixed, 395*l*. Plates, common, 475*l*.; ditto, sheets, 690*l*. Pigs (coke), 140*l*.; ditto, charcoal, 225*l*. the 1000 kilos. These prices show a fall of 50 centimes as compared with the preceding ones. Coke iron, for forge purposes, is quoted at 150*l*.; pigs, for casting, at 180*l*. to 190*l*. the 1000 kilos. In Paris, prices have diminished, within the last month, from 20 to 40*l*. as compared with the previous ones. Charcoal rolls are quoted at 410*l*.; coke, ditto, at 390*l*. the 1000 kilos. Forged iron, coal, demi-roche, 440*l*.; ditto, roches, 460*l*.; Berri iron, 570*l*.; sheets, 560*l*.; and axles, 48*l*. the 1000 kilos. The forges of Denain and d'Anzin are selling 1st and 2d class rolls at 360*l*. the 1000 kilos.; non-fort, at 440*l*.; demi-fort, at 400*l*.; and sheets, at 480*l*. the 1000 kilos.; Northern pigs, for refining, 160*l*. Puddled plates are quoted at 520*l*.; ditto, fort, 640*l*.; ditto, charcoal refined, 780*l*. the 1000 kilos. The prices in Périgord, at the works, are—charcoal pigs, refined, 210*l*.; charcoal forged iron, 480*l*.; rolls, charcoal, refined, 430*l*.; and charcoal rods, refined, 530*l*. the 1000 kilos. Nail iron has fallen 2*l*. the small Nos.; and iron wire is worth 930*l*. the 1000 kilos, in the Paris market. The prices of the forges d'Alais are:—hoops, 400*l*. to 460*l*.; bands (half), 480*l*.; bands, 510*l*.; rods,

soft iron, 520*l*.; rods, mixed iron, 460*l*.; angle iron, 480*l*. to 500*l*.; plates, common, 545*l*. to 560*l*.; sheets, 600*l*. to 650*l*.; rails, 250*l*. to 290*l*.; castings, 2d melting, 250*l*. to 260*l*.; axle boxes, 300*l*.; railings and pipes, 340*l*. to 360*l*.; machine castings, 400*l*. to 450*l*.; railroad ditto, 170*l*. to 180*l*. the 1000 kilos. In Belgium, the prices are firm. Large contracts have been undertaken for pigs, refined metal; they stand at 115*l*. the 1000 kilos.; pigs, for castings, 127*l*. 50*l*.; No 5 (or grey iron), 137*l*. 50*l*.; No 4, 147*l*. 50*l*.; No 3, 157*l*. 50*l*.; No 2, 167*l*. 50*l*. The orders are so numerous that the forge masters cannot produce fast enough, and a rise is, consequently, expected very shortly. Prices vary from 240*l*. to 260*l*. and 280*l*. the 1000 kilos, according to classification.

Copper is still firm, although founders have reduced the price five centimes. Pure ores are worth, at Bordeaux, 30*l*. to 30*l*. The Lake Superior is priced at 322*l*. 50*l*.; English, 326*l*.; Russian, 340*l*. Tin, here, stands at 342*l*. 50*l*. to 345*l*.; Banco, 337*l*. 50*l*. to 340*l*.; Straits, 327*l*. 50*l*. to 330*l*. English, the 1000 kilos. Zinc is the same, as well, also, as lead. At Marseilles, the latter has been sold at from 550*l*. to 555*l*. in bond. At Havre, 645*l*. to 650*l*. the 1000 kilos. In this last town, a quantity of old sheathing was sold at 194*l*. the 1000 kilos.

Such of your readers as visited the Exposition Universelle, may remember seeing a cast-steel boiler, exhibited by Jackson Brothers, Petin, and Company; the boiler was some 17*l*. long, and 39*in*. in diameter; it weighed 1 ton 1*l*. cwt., and the thickness of the plates is only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. The experiments that were made proved its capability to resist a pressure of 75*lb.* to the square inch. It would be extremely satisfactory to engineers to learn that one of these cast-steel boilers has been long in use, and that the plates have been subsequently examined, to ascertain what changes the steel has undergone by repeated heating and cooling, if it has not lost its tenacity, and been reduced to the state of common iron. M. Alfred Chenot, son of the distinguished chemist, whose melancholy death was noticed some time back, asserts the claim of his father to the first invention of steam puddling, recently patented by Mr. J. Nasmyth. M. Chenot's patent, it is stated, was taken here March 26, 1853, which would evidently give him the priority. *Palmarum qui meruit ferat.*

On Monday last, the model works erected by the French and Foreign Glass Company, at Asnières, were opened. They have been established for the purpose of carrying out the invention of M. Omer Salmon, which consists in the application of the waste heat from coking ovens to the manufacture of glass. It is stated that the success of the invention has been fully and satisfactorily demonstrated by the results obtained since Monday; and it certainly is a most reasonable and, at the same time, important proposition to apply the immense heat from coking, hitherto lost, to the production of articles of utility. To be able to utilise the heat from ovens, the latter, doubtless, require to have their construction modified; and it, therefore, remains to be seen whether coke will be as sound and clean when drawn from the new ovens as from the old ones. Should such prove to be the case, there is no doubt that M. Omer Salmon's invention will be readily adopted in England,—perhaps not applied to the manufacture of glass, but, at all events, to some manufacturing purpose. It is probable that the production of slag tiles, pipes, bricks, &c., would be the most convenient application of M. Salmon's invention; for this branch of manufacture requires, apparently, no very delicate manipulation; the frame materials may be obtained anywhere, and the goods will everywhere find a ready sale.

Mr. Kind, whose system of boring was noticed in the *Mining Journal* of Jan. 27, 1855, has recently been busily engaged in boring a new Artesian well in the Avenue Charles X., at the angle of the Avenues St. Cloud and Petit Parc, near Paris, for the purpose of supplying the ornamental lakes of the Bois de Boulogne. An interesting paper has been communicated to the Académie by M. Dumas on the subject, from which it appears that Mr. Kind has undertaken to bore a well 23 inches in diameter, and continue the sinking, if necessary, to the depth of 2500*ft.*, and thus obtain a daily supply of 10,000 cubic metres of water, being nearly equal to the volume of water delivered by the Seine through the Pont de la Tournelle, at Paris. The boring was commenced on Aug. 2 last, with a diameter of about 41*in*. For some time, when the operations were through marl and chalk, the average daily progress was 16*l*. 5*s*.; then, through sand, it was reduced to 8*l*. to 10*l*.; and now, having reached another stratum of chalk, containing boulders, the speed is 5*l*. the depth being already upwards of 980*ft.*, and by May 1 it is expected that the enormous depth of about 2380*ft.* from surface will be attained, being more than 490*ft.* deeper than the Artesian well at Grenelle. M. Dumas gives a detailed account of the process, but as we have before fully described the mode of operation, the repetition is unnecessary. We may remark, however, that the sole motive power is a steam-engine of 24-horse power. M. Dumas was authorised by Mr. Kind to make known to the Geological and Mineralogical Departments of the Académie that, when any stratum appeared particularly interesting to them, he would detach, and bring to surface, a specimen 20*in*. in diameter, and from 3 to 6*l*. in length, in order to show the real composition of the soil.

IMPROVED MODE OF IRON SMELTING.

The iron manufacture of Great Britain is, before all others, the most important and extensive; and everything calculated essentially for its welfare and prosperity demands not only the attention of the ironmaster, but the support of the country.

We have before us a circular, addressed by Mr. Mickle, of Willington, Durham, to the ironmasters, and consider it deserving of the early and serious consideration of the community, because it proposes to effect an improvement of primary magnitude, and its data are evidently given with scrupulous regard to scientific truth, and practical and commercial soundness and solidity.

The effect to the ironmaster practically, we conceive, will be this—that he will obtain as much metal of superior character, at less charge for fuel, from one furnace, as he now can from three or four, and at no increase of cost in any shape, except labour. The present capital for an establishment, therefore, which admits a supply of three to four millions, will then, with the same facility, yield ten to sixteen. Moreover, the coal, in some parts of the iron district, becoming scarce and expensive, has at different periods caused oppression and care to the manufacturer, placing him at disadvantage to those of more favoured districts, and sometimes rendering the partial closing of his furnaces necessary.

The development of the manufacture of the last few years makes this a still more important question, because some of the older of the southern coal districts are comparatively exhausted, while the demand is increasing; and the effect will be that, as is now the

as one ton of the best coke, without any reference to the concentration of combustion and intensity of the blowpipe. Coal, as purified, is noticed as the purest of fuel. The intensity will more effectually separate the iron from the slag, and *vice versa*, and thus improve the quality. Mr. Mickle observes, that 3,000,000 tons of metal have been made during the year in Great Britain. This required 7,500,000 tons of coal; and of the latter, the best and commandant part, upwards of 1,000,000 tons, with 1,500,000 tons of coke, have been altogether rejected and dissipated.

THE IRON TRADE—ITS STATE AND PROSPECTS.

There is no improvement in the trade of our district; the demand for America falls short of what I have ever known it at this season of the year; and, although from the lowness and ill-assorted stocks, which it is admitted on all hands exists throughout the United States, still it appears as though the buyers were waiting the issue of the preliminary meeting of the trade, which will be held on the 27th inst., before giving out any specifications. It is most uncertain whether a reduction will take place or not for the next quarter: so far as exertions on the part of some of the marked iron firms are concerned, I think they will endeavour to prevent alteration; but, on the other hand, what is to be done when needy houses are selling bars at 8*l.* per ton? I know it will be urged, by those who use the different brands of South Staffordshire, that it is rubbish, and not worth the money; but still we can understand the effect it has upon a market, when seller after seller call upon shippers, and offer them bars, which are represented as being as good as any in the trade, at such ruinous figures—ruinous they are, and I defy any one to produce iron at the price; in fact, with mine pigs at from 4*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per ton, who can sell bars without a loss at 8*l.* Look throughout the district at the way in which the trades are off for orders—many of the iron-works are working short time; some large establishments, who were nearly kept going by orders for railway tyres, axles, and boiler-plates, and have not lacked demand for several years, are now at work half time. The ironfounders have been reducing the number of hands employed by nearly half the quantity. Railway wheel makers are almost at a stand, and so are the wagon and carriage builders.

I think, under all the circumstances, that it will be a hard matter to prevent a reduction in price; but, as I have said before, great exertions will be made to do it, on the plea that now is the season of the year for orders to come in; that if the war is ended, we can export to the north of Europe; and that if money is easier, sanitary improvements, railways, and other home works, will speedily alter the existing state of demand.

For my own part, I would sooner see bars at 8*l.* with pigs, coal, and labour in proportion, than at a higher figure. We can compete with Belgium and America when our rates are no higher than 8*l.* for bars; and Holland, that old and good customer, shares her purchases with us then, instead of buying all from the former market. America, when 8*l.* per ton is exceeded, puts forth her producing powers, and supplies her own market with a rather considerable quantity, whereas she cannot but lose by manufacturing, if we do not go beyond that figure.

Coal is being more extensively raised than for months past, and the price is giving way. Pig-iron of the best makes is hard to sell at anything like what the makers consider it is worth, and common pigs are increasing in stock.—IRONMASTER.—*Worcester Journal*, of this day.

LEAD MINING IN CARDIGANSHIRE.—No. II.

The numerous remains of ancient workings scattered over the surface of this county, as, indeed, over all the mineral districts of Wales, clearly indicate that lead was raised here at a remote period. They are similar to the surface workings so general in Cornwall, Devon, and Yorkshire, and are usually ascribed to the Romans. At the Rhosog, one of the Llanddewy-brefi run of mines, and some other places, there are adits which have been wrought with extreme care, and at a costly rate, being apparently cut down with chisels. A level similarly wrought has been found in the Poltimore Mine, Devon: this has been likewise attributed to the Romans. Near Aberdovey is a lead mine, still known as the Roman's Mine. The Rhosog is also familiar to the country people by the same appellation. Little doubt can exist, from the great extent of the works, that these mines were very productive at the period alluded to, and that high dues were paid. The comparatively easy expense of raising the ore from shallow levels rendered due a very different tax to what they become in deep and costly mines.

The almost marvellous traditions of the wealth of the Welsh Potosi, and Sir Hugh Middleton's mines, have no doubt tended to excite the cupidity of the landowners, and cause heavy demands for the privilege of working their lands; but there is another and increasing evil becoming more common daily, since the formation of railway companies—viz., the exactions of the lords' stewards, in the shape of fees, leases, and law charges. This evil is very severely felt in Cornwall also, and has frequently led to so much disgust on the part of capitalists, that they have thrown up the undertakings, rather than subject themselves to the rapacity of the stewards.

We do hope, now that attention is being directed to the Cardiganshire mines, and a prestige is excited in their favour, the land proprietors will take warning from the past, lower their dues to a fair standard, and take example from those Cornish worthies whose liberality has frequently saved mines from destruction, which have repaid them a hundredfold the value of the surface of the whole estates. How long since would the old mines in the neighbourhood of Camborne have been discontinued but for the liberality of the Bassets and similar landlords?

We sincerely hope and trust this matter will be seriously entertained by those most concerned, and that we may shortly see the Cardiganshire hills studded with works that tend so much towards national prosperity.

THE SLATE TRADE—THE TALYSARN QUARRIES.

We do not feel ourselves called upon to point out, specifically, the defects and prospective disadvantages of some of the undertakings with which, as journalists, we are occasionally conversant; nor, on the other hand, do we consider it our duty to dwell at large on the highly promising and remunerative character of other projected works connected with that branch of public industry of which, we trust, this Journal is the impartial exponent and representative. It is better generally, as we think, to leave to the public the guardianship of its own interests, than to incur the responsibility, and the possible mischief, of a frequent interference. Still, we are not pledged to a slavish conformity to this rule, and gladly step out of it when, as in the present instance, we see a justifying cause. From the documents which have been submitted to us, we find that the Talyssarn estate, near Carnarvon, comprises a chain of rich slate quarries, a part only of which have been worked, producing about 350 tons of fine-slate per month; that it is quite easy, by a somewhat enlarged outlay of capital, to infuse such activity into the works as that they shall furnish, instead of their present contribution, 1,000 tons of superior slate per month. It is further declared that this freehold estate, with the plant, and working furniture of the quarries, is of the full value of 50,000*l.*, and has really cost that sum, and that having passed into new hands, it is now purposed to re-invigorate the workings, and more fully develop the resources of the estate, by forming a company, with about 13,000*l.* as a subscribed capital, for the realisation of these important objects. This is the substance of the statement contained in the papers before us, and it admits of satisfactory verification, for, of course, the whole matter turns upon that, we can have little hesitation in saying that this is a sound and highly promising undertaking. It is but justice to add, that this affair appears clearly exempt from the category of speculation. The present monthly earnings, and the monthly expenses of the quarries, as well as those for a series of years past, together with the respectable margin of profits left, are points which can be ascertained, we presume, with nearly a fractional accuracy.

CWMDYLL MINING COMPANY—WILFUL DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.—We regret to hear that a shameful and wanton destruction of property has taken place on this mine. For the last three weeks, considerable mischief has been done to the shoots which convey the ore from the upper levels to the stamps, by their being thrown down, which was at first attributed to the wind. When the men attended at the mine, on Monday morning last, they found the shoots filled up with large stones, parts broken and thrown down, shovels broken, oil-cans destroyed, &c. Three persons (whose names the directors have) were seen on the mine on Saturday last, and, as they had no right there, but little doubt exists as to the guilty parties. We are glad to hear that the directors have sent instructions to their solicitor at Carnarvon at once to take such proceedings as he may think necessary to bring the guilty parties to justice.

GUNPOWDER.—Mr. C. Goodyear proposes applying India-rubber or gutta percha with sulphur and saltpetre in the manufacture of gunpowder.

SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF ENGLISH MINING.

BY J. H. MURCHISON, ESQ., F.G.S.

In the 10 years ending with 1854, the dividends paid by English Mines alone amounted to 2,186,620*l.*, or an average of 218,622*l.* per annum. In 1855, British Mines paid 360,000*l.*, of which 340,500*l.* was divided by English Mines, showing an increase over the annual average of the previous 10 years of 121,338*l.*; while there is an increase in 1855, over 1854, of 20,392*l.* These are the best evidences of the progress of British Mining, and the success attending its prosecution; and I believe that no investment offers so good a return, together with comparative security, if ordinary caution be observed, in selecting the mines to become interested in. The following are some of the principal instances of the large profits derived from legitimate mining in this country:—

Mines.	No. of Shares.	Amount paid up.		Dividends paid.		Market value.	
		Per sh.	Amount.	Per sh.	Amount.	Per sh.	Amount.
Wheat Bassett	512	2 <i>5</i> <i>1</i>	£2,624	£382 <i>16</i>	£195,840	£400	£204,800
Wheat Buller	256	5	1,280	76 <i>14</i>	196,160	58 <i>0</i>	148,480
Par Consols	6144	1 <i>1</i> <i>1</i>	6,912	27	165,000	20	122,880
South Frances	498	19	9,424	332	87,482	37 <i>0</i>	183,520
North Bassett	6000	—	—	7	42,450	42	252,000
West Bassett	6000	1 <i>1</i> <i>1</i>	9,000	5 <i>1</i> <i>1</i>	33,750	36	216,000
Fowey Consols	494	40	19,760	404	199,897	30	14,820
Devon Great Cons.	1024	1	1,024	479	490,496	400	409,500
Alfred Consols	5120	5 <i>1</i> <i>1</i>	28,800	13 <i>1</i> <i>18</i>	71,168	15	76,800
South Caradon	256	2 <i>1</i> <i>1</i>	640	381	97,632	300	76,800
			£79,464		£1,579,875		£1,705,700

This list might be considerably extended, but so far it shows, in 10 mines, upon an outlay of only 79,464*l.*, profits divided to this date of 1,579,875*l.*, and also of the market value of 1,705,700*l.*

In 1855, a number of mines advanced greatly in price, as well as paid good dividends during the year—such as Bassett, from 280*l.* to 400*l.*, and 63*1* *1* per share in dividends; North Bassett, from 18*l.* to 41*l.*, and 3*1* *1* per share in dividends; South Frances, from 13*l.* to 350*l.*, and 40*l.* per share in dividends; West Seton, from 100*l.* to 320*l.*, and 17*l.* per share in dividends; Rosewarne, from 35*l.* to 135*l.*, and 15*l.* per share in dividends; Wheal Clifford, from 230*l.* to 620*l.*, and 4*l.* per share in dividends.

THE COAL TRADE.

The following is a statement of the delivery of coals, &c., in the port of London during the month of February:—

Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
Newcastle	309	100,236	Blyth	9	1,606
	111	26,362	Scotch	9	1,330
Sunderland	178	51,805	Welsh	22	6,000
Martpool & West Hartl.	151	51,213	Yorkshire, &c.	48	4,110
Stockton and Middleb'ro	9	1,922	Small coal and cinders	4	638
				880	245,402
Total					244,226
Total imported in Feb., 1855.					

Comparative Statement of 1855 and 1856.

Imported from 1st January to 29th Feb., 1856.

Imported from 1st January to 28th Feb., 1855.

Increase of ships and tons

2078 523 150,399

THE RAILWAY COAL TRADE.

Monthly statement of coal and coke brought by railway and canal within the London district, during the month of February:—

Railways.	Tons cwt.	Railways.	Tons cwt.
North-Western	31,659 16	Great Western	9,875 15
Great Northern	51,993 16	South-Eastern	1,506 8
Eastern Counties	14,513 2		109,548 2
Total by railway in Feb., 1856			71,054 2
Coals by railway in Feb., 1855			nil.

Comparative Statement of 1855 and 1856.

Coals by railway from 1st January to 29th Feb., 1856.

Coals by railway from 1st January to 28th Feb., 1855.

Increase in the year 1856—railways

Coals by canals from 1st January to 29th Feb., 1856.

Coals by canals from 1st January to 28th Feb., 1855.

Increase in the year 1856—canals

PROSPECTIVE ORDERS.

In Glasgow—300 tons gas tank castings, socket-pipes, &c., for London.

In Birmingham—Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co., have undertaken the completion of a railway in Zealand.

1500 tons of chairs, 250 tons of fishing plates, and 50 tons of fishing bolts, for the Midland Railway Company.

Gas apparatus, pipes, tubes, &c., for Gibraltar.

15,000 yards of main gas pipes, one gasometer, retorts, hydraulic mains, pipes, &c., for Stockton, county of Durham.

A pair of marine engines, a gas station meter, &c., for London.

A wet lime purifier, for Cornwall.

A gas holder, for Durham.

Four cast-iron purifiers, &c., for Southport, Lancashire.

Additional quantities of railway chairs.

PROSPECTIVE ORDERS.

Railways in Italy, Savoy, Canada, France, Russia, Sweden, from London to Ports-

Extension of English and Scotch Railways.

Gas works for Constantinople and other towns in Turkey, and towns in Spain.

MINING EDUCATION.—Among those who have devoted their attention to this subject, few have rendered such practical service to the good cause as Mr. John Hedley, to whose labours some time since we had favourably to advert. At the time the Mining School was established in Truro, we had occasion to state that, in our opinion, not only was it too restricted in its objects, but that likewise the expenses attending the lectures, together with the cost of board and lodging in the town, would render, in a great measure, the benefits intended to be conferred nugatory. Mr. Hedley has been, for the last six months, visiting the mining districts of South Wales, Forest of Dean, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire, and lecturing to the operatives of those localities on geology, mining, and the kindred sciences. A committee, comprising Messrs. Herbert Maworth and John Hedley (Inspectors of Mines), Bennett, Brain, George, Baynton, Knight, George Peare, Farler and Son, G. C. Greenwell, Leard, Boul, Thomas Nicholson, John Whittuck, Wethered, Cosham, Wethered and Co., proprietors respectively of the Bedminster, Kingswood, Ashton Vale, Golden Vale, Timsbury, Nailsea, Radstock, Easton, Park End, Soundwell, and Parkfield Collieries, have determined, from the report submitted to them by Mr. B. Mort, to establish a Mining School in Bristol. It is proposed to give increased attention to the education of colliers' children, to deliver lectures on subjects connected with the miners' occupation, such as the dangers of mining, nature of gases, machinery, &c.; the establishment of reading-rooms, libraries, and geological museums at the several works; and to publish a cheap monthly paper, for spreading information on subjects connected with mining. The committee of the

TALYSARN SLATE COMPANY, VALE OF NANTLLE, CARNARVONSHIRE.

On the "Cost-Book Principle."

In 4500 shares, of £5 each; of which only £3 per share will be immediately required.

Dividends payable half-yearly.

The property purchased comprises upwards of 70 acres of freehold land, all slate rock, on the celebrated Bangor veins, with 11 quarries thereon (two of which only now are in work, but which are producing 350 tons of manufactured slate per month). Mansion house, gardens and grounds, 27 cottages, 2 steam-engines, 4 water-wheels, sawing machine, lifting apparatus, for raising 500 tons a day, water-balance of the most perfect construction and vast power; 4 inclined planes, with their drums, chains, and tramways, complete; 4 weighing machines, iron pumps, pipes, wagons; two miles of tramway, workshops, implements, and machinery of every description. The whole in regular course of working, and in the most complete order, having cost the late proprietors, in purchase-money, machinery, and development of this splendid property, upwards of £250,000.

TRUSTEES.

HENRY FENTON JADIS, Esq., Comptroller Corn Department, Board of Trade, Whitehall.

WM. HUMPHREY PILCHER, Esq., 18, New Broad-street, City.

BANKERS—Messrs. Barnett, Hoare's, and Co., 62, Lombard-street.

OFFICES—8, GREAT WINCHESTER STREET, CITY.

Public companies are frequently formed to develop the resources of mineral properties, by means of a large subscribed capital; but the Talyssarn Quarries having for a long period been realising large profits, require only an extension of the labour department to secure double or treble the present returns.

The quarries have been paying continuous dividends upon the present time, and the monthly accounts show that a dividend of 10 per cent per annum, at least, may be paid out of the current profits of the present year, which will be gradually and greatly increased by extending the workings.

This ought not, therefore, to be considered as a speculation, but as an ascertained and safe investment.

The proprietor of this valuable estate has agreed to accept, for the entire property, £20,000, and will take one-third, at least, of the purchase-money in shares, to be deemed as paid-up—500 shares will be disposed of, as may be required, to form a working capital of £2500, and as £5000 of the purchase-money may remain on mortgage, the amount of cash immediately required, to complete the purchase, will not exceed £3000.

The property is freehold, and consequently free from the payment of royalty. It will be conveyed, with all the quarries thereon, plant, &c., to trustees, to be held for the benefit of the company. The estate and property comprise about 70 acres of land, mansion house, gardens, and grounds, 27 cottages, 2 steam-engines, 4 water-wheels, sawing machine, lifting apparatus, water-balance, and other machinery and implements (all of which will be included in the purchase).

The freehold was originally purchased by Messrs. Rundell, Bridge, and Co., and the plant put up by that eminent firm regardless of expense, and at a total outlay, including the development of the quarries, of upwards of £50,000.

The entire estates being slate rock, the quarries may be considered inexhaustible. The quarries produce slates of every description, and of a fine quality; and it is believed that, by extended working, 12,000 tons of slate per annum, at least, may be delivered at Carnarvon.

The Vale of Nantlle Railway passes through the estates, and the slates from these quarries are delivered at the Port of Carnarvon, at 2s. 8*½*d. per ton, while the carriage alone, from other quarries not contiguous to the railway, averages 3s. or 3s. per ton.

The advantage of working a freehold slate quarry, where no royalty is payable, is very great. The royalty of 3s. per ton, usually reserved in other quarries, would alone produce on 12,000 tons, £1800 per annum, which sum, in this case, will be wholly saved.

The whole presents one of the most unique and valuable freehold properties in the principality. The quarries are in regular and complete working order, and above 350 tons of slate per month are now being delivered from the two quarries only which are now in work. The manager, who has superintended the working for the last 12 years, states that he can easily supply 1000 tons per month.

The staple production of this part of North Wales is its unrivalled slate. Two of the Bangor quarries, Col. Pennant's and Mr. A. Smith's, have obtained great celebrity, and are for many years past, large sum of money.

The ordinary cost of producing a ton of slate, and the average value of every ton of slate shipped, are matters well ascertained by those experienced in the management of slate quarries. The profits, therefore, are in proportion to the quantity delivered, and ought not to be considered as uncertain or speculative.

The manager's report for the last month, ending 8th inst., is—produce, 390 tons 5 cwt., value £655 8s.; wages, £400; leaving on this limited working, a balance of profit, over the working expenses, of £255 8s., or above £600 per annum.

The company will not be fettered by the cumbersome and expensive machinery of a joint-stock company; but will be conducted on the Cost-book Principle, and with the least possible expense. Meetings will be held on the estate, or elsewhere, as may be determined upon, every two months, and the accounts will be audited and dividends paid half-yearly.

The managing committee will be chosen at the first meeting after the formation of the company.

The current accounts, vouchers, reports, and plans of the estate, &c., may be inspected at the office. Samples of the slate may also be seen there, and all other information obtained on application to the secretary, 8, Great Winchester-street, City.

London, March, 1856.

Applications for shares must be made in the accompanying form to the secretary, Mr. HESLOP, at the office; or to the solicitor, W. H. PILCHER, Esq., 18, New Broad-street; and no allotment will be made unless the deposit of £1 per share, mentioned in such form, be first paid to the bankers of the company. In case no allotment be made, or a smaller number of shares than applied for be allotted, the deposit on shares unallotted will be returned without any deduction.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

N.B.—This must be presented to the bankers entire.—The applicant will retain the receipt at foot, and forward this letter, when marked by the bankers, to the solicitor, or secretary.

To the Trustees of the Talyssarn Slate Company.

GENTLEMEN.—Having paid into the hands of Messrs. Barnett, Hoare's, and Co., the bankers of the company, £ to you credit, I request you will allot me shares of £5 each in the above-named company, and I hereby agree to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and to pay the calls thereon at the appointed times.

Name in full.....

Profession or occupation.....

Date.....

Residence in full.....

Place of business, if any.....

MINING IN THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have received intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope to Dec. 17. A special general meeting of the shareholders in the Cape of Good Hope Mining Company was held on Dec. 15, for the purpose of considering a report from the directors, founded upon information received from Capt. Hartman, the manager, recently engaged with a party of miners from England. Capt. Hartman had inspected the whole of the centres belonging to the company (excluding those in the locality of Concordia), and found nothing in them that justified him in recommending further operations. He, therefore, advised that they should be abandoned, but recommended the retention of the company's second, on Messrs. Prince, Collison, and Company's mine—Hester Maria; and considered that several centres, in the neighbourhood of Concordia, require more careful examination than he had hitherto been able to make. The directors recommended that the operations should be continued another year, at a cost of £2500. The report, after a lengthened discussion, was adopted. From the *Cape Mercantile Advertiser*, we learn that the Eagle Mining Company, in consequence of the depressed state of the money market, had agreed to stop further operations for the present. At the Union Mining Company meeting, on Dec. 13 (Mr. J. M. Maynard in the chair), Mr. Melé reported that the operations commenced at Koper Kop were so promising that he would soon be able to forward ore to Cape Town; three veins had been opened, the largest 4 feet wide. The company were in possession of nine centres, an intimation as given by the Chairman that by the next meeting they might be in a position to declare a dividend. The Western Province Mining Company called a meeting for Jan. 4, to consider the propriety of dissolving. From Messrs. Phillips and King's lines, in Namqualand, the accounts are very favourable; in one part they had a vein of pure copper 14 ft. wide, running from the surface, where eight men were daily getting out 14 tons of best copper, worth 75*l*. per ton. About three miles from this place is another mountain, called Koper Berg, which to all appearance is a mass of copper. The Spectacle Mining Company, at the Isabella Mine, on the Orange River, had been working 10 days, sunk a shaft about 8 ft., and taken out 11 bags of superior ore. The Prince of Wales arrived from Port Nolloth, with 38 tons of copper ore; and the Mary Sarah, at Alexander Bay, to take in 100 tons of copper ore. The Ocean Queen sailed from the Cape of Good Hope on January the 14th, for London, with 55 tons of copper ore on freight.

MINING IN LAKE SUPERIOR.—Correspondence has been received from Mr. John Cox, superintendent of the Summit Mine, to Jan. 12. To that time the season had been extremely rigorous, and more snow had fallen in the highlands than for years previous, although the mercury has shown a temperature less, on the average, than for seasons preceding. On the mines, Mr. Cox writes:—"I visited the mines in the vicinity of Copper Harbour last week. The force employed in the Keweenaw Mine this winter consists of 22 miners, and an equal number of surface hands. Their workings are confined to an extensive corse, or ravine, which passes across the Point north, 26° west, but a little too far south of the crystalline trap to intersect much mass copper. The vein is very large, and contains an immense amount of stamp rock, rich in mineral. The admirable facility with which it can be excavated and prepared for market, enables the mine to pay its way without difficulty. They have a large engine, and fixtures for 16 heads of stamps, which they intend to erect next season; and with such an enormous and plainly defined vein, success is certain, if even a moderate economy is exercised.

The Clarke Mine, situated midway between Copper Harbour and the Keweenaw, is on the north side of the range, and although but 10 miners are employed, and constitute the entire force, yet a very large amount of mass copper is exposed, and the nature of the ground is such as to admit of extensive workings, and must ultimately return rich rewards to its enterprising adventurers as a compensation for their skill and energy.

The vein, although not so large as the Keweenaw, contains a vast deal more copper, and larger dividends may be expected. Besides the vein now wrought, they have three distinct and prominent veins, only partially explored, all crossing their mammoth location and contiguous to each other. After an examination of the Clarke, we proceeded to the Star Mine, directly south, but not having sufficient time to go underground, we contented ourselves with an examination of the material daily taken from the mine, and I think, from its appearance, a great similarity exists between the Star and the Keweenaw, but both mines are opened out far south of the crystalline trap to intersect much mass copper, yet when their workings have reached further south large masses will, doubtless, be met.

In the two galleries going south at the Eagle River Mine, small masses, barrel, and rich stamp work are constantly met with. That mine will make a handsome shipment of copper on the opening of navigation. They are now working within a few feet of the south boundary of the Hill Mine, belonging to the Garden City, and on the same vein, just under and to the south of the crystalline trap. The Garden City own one mile in extent of this productive vein, and it is to be hoped that the earliest opportunity will be improved in exhausting its resources. The Phoenix Company on the north, and the Eagle River on the south, having proved the productiveness of this company's vein, it will be an anomaly in mining if this does not prove one of the best mining ventures of the country. There is an abundance of supplies in the different mines on Keweenaw Point, yet the orders have not been as extravagant as heretofore, which will, doubtless, be beneficial in the end."

TO IRONMASTERS AND OTHERS.—IMPORTANT SALE OF FREEHOLD IRONWORKS AND PLANT, AT GREEF'S GREEN, WEST BROMWICH.

M. R. THOMAS DANKS WILL SELL, BY AUCTION, on Monday, the 14th day of April, 1856 (by order of the Trustees of Mr. Thomas Payne), at the Dudley Arms Hotel, in Dudley, at Five for Six o'clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced, all that valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, called the STAFFORDSHIRE IRONWORKS, situated at Greef's Green, in the parish of West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

Full particulars may be obtained on application to HENRY CONSER, Esq., solicitor, Stourbridge; G. JASB, Esq., Messrs. GOW, DOOKER, and SUTTON, and W. COPPARD, Esq., solicitors, Birmingham; or to the auctioneer, Dudley.

TWO HUNDRED 6 tons COAL WAGONS.

M. R. ESSEY WILL SELL, BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, the 26th inst., at the Rugby Station, TWO HUNDRED 6 tons COAL WAGONS, built expressly for the London coal trade, but not put into work, in consequence of the default of the intended lessees. They will be divided into lots, suitable for private purchasers. Approved bills at two or three months' date, with interest added for time, will be taken in payment.

The owner will be glad to receive tenders from railway companies for the hire of the whole, upon a fair rental, with or without future powers of purchase; such tenders to be addressed to Mr. Essey, auctioneer, Rugby, on or before Thursday next, the 20th inst., that due notice may be given of abandonment of sale.

The wagons may be seen on application to Mr. FAIR, station master, Rugby.

M. R. WHEATLEY KIRK begs to call attention to his large STOCK OF ENGINES AND TOOLS, which are of the best workmanship and newest construction. All classes of STEAM-ENGINES, NEW and SECOND-HAND, a large number of which, HORIZONTAL and VERTICAL, are always on hand, ready for delivery on the shortest notice. WHEATLEY KIRK is also open to receive orders for the construction of engines of any class or power, and to complete the same promptly. Engineers' Tools of every description on hand; Sledge and Screw-cutting Lathes, Planing, Punching, and Drilling Machines, &c.

Offices, Cross-street Chambers, Manchester; Warehouse, Bonded Wharf, Salford.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF RAILWAY, MINING, and OTHER PLANT OR ROLLING STOCK, RAILS, CHAIRS, LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES, CARRIAGES, WAGONS, TURN TABLES, CRANES, MILLWRIGHT WORK-PLANTS, STEAM-ENGINES, and MACHINERY, for home and exportation, may be had on application to WHEATLEY KIRK, Cross-street Chambers, Manchester.

FAST LANCASHIRE RAILWAY.—The Directors are prepared to receive TENDERS for the MAINTENANCE of the PERMANENT WAY and WORKS; also, for the FORMATION and LAYING DOWN of a SECOND LINE of RAILS from STUBBEINS JUNCTION to RAWTENSTAL, including all the works connected therewith.

Specifications and plans may be seen on and after the 21st inst., at the engineer's office, Bury Station. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tender for Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works," to be addressed to the undersigned before the 19th day of April next.

By order, MYLES FENTON, Sec.

Bury, Lancashire, March 12, 1856.

NEWPORT DOCKS.—NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

The Directors of the Newport Dock Company are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the EXECUTION of the following WORKS:—viz., AN EXTENSION of the existing DOCK; ALTERATIONS and ADDITIONS to the present LOCK and ENTRANCE; and the CONSTRUCTION of an AQUEDUCT from the River Ebbw.

The plans, sections, specifications, and conditions of the above-named works, and others connected with them, may be seen at the office of JAMES ABRENNET, Esq., 3, Parliament-street, Westminster, engineer to the company; and at the Dock Office, Newport, Monmouthshire; and on and after Monday, the 10th inst., of whom tender may be obtained.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the "Secretary to the Newport Dock Company," Dock Office, Newport, Monmouthshire, to be sent in or before Wednesday, the 2d day of April next.

H. R. FOOTE, Sec.

Dock Office, Newport, Monmouthshire, March 6, 1856.

HIGH-PRESSURE HORIZONTAL STEAM-ENGINE FOR SALE.

with or without boiler, 16 in. cylinder, 3 ft. 2 in. stroke; fly-wheel 4 tons 3 cwt.; Cornish boiler, Low Moor fire-box, 6 ft. diam., and 24 ft. in length; weight 6 tons 6 cwt.—Apply to J. C. CAPPER, Falcon Works, Newlyn, until Tuesday, the 18th inst.—Dated March 5, 1856.

STEAM PUMPING ENGINE WANTED.

of from 24 to 30 in. cylinder, with boiler, &c., complete.—Address, stating particulars, with price for same, to be delivered on the mine, to MR. WILLIAM RICKARD, Rickard's Wheal Rose, Newlyn, until Tuesday, the 18th inst.—Dated March 5, 1856.

BIRAM'S PATENT ANEMOMETER, 12 in., £4 4s.; 6 in., £3 3s.

To be had of the maker, JOHN DAVIS, Derby, Manufacturer of Dials, &c.

THE LATE J. BUDDLE, Esq.'s, LETTERS UPON VENTILATION, and the PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS IN MINES; written immediately prior to the invention of the safety-lamp. A FEW COPIES of the above having passed into the hands of Mr. P. S. Reid, Pelton Colliery, Chester-le-street, parties interested may OBTAIN THEM by enclosing 13 postage stamps to his address.

ENGINEERS, BOILER MAKERS, SHIPBUILDERS, &c.

Two very strong PUNCHING and SHEARING MACHINES FOR SALE, will punch and cut 3 in. plates. Also, ONE ditto, to punch and cut 1*½* in. plates, adapted to work either by hand or steam power. Also, ONE COMPOUND SLIDE REST, for 9 in. centre lathe, to slide 18 in. long; ONE ditto, for 10 in. centre lathe, to slide 20 in. long; ONE ditto, for 12 in. centre lathe, to slide 24 in. long. For price and particulars, apply to J. GOODWORTH, Albert Foundry, Leeds; or Mr. GEORGE YOUNG and Co., engineers, Barnstaple.

SPIKES AND FISH BOLTS.—Prices and detailed information, with respect to HOPPER'S PATENTS and IMPROVEMENTS in SPIKES and FISH BOLTS, will be forwarded on application to Mr. GEO. HOPPER, Houghton-le-Spring Ironworks, and Britannia Ironworks, Fencible Houses, Durham. Thousands of tons of the above have been made at these works during the last ten years, for most of the principal railways in England. A liberal allowance to exporters and commission agents.

STATIONARY STEAM-ENGINES OF THE BEST QUALITY.

From 1 to 50-horse power, fitted with VARIABLE EXPANSION GEAR. These engines, which have been designed to combine great simplicity of parts with the utmost economy of action, are supplied with or without boilers, at the lowest possible rates; and erected, if required, in any part of the kingdom. General boiler and tank work carefully executed upon advantageous terms.—Apply to Messrs. WILLIAM YOUNG and Co., engineers, Barnstaple.

WATER-WHEEL.—FOR SALE, in Ireland, near a railway and shipping port, a superior IRON WATER-WHEEL, 40 ft. diam., 4 ft. breast, with bearing blocks, braces, &c., complete; adapted to the purpose of mining operations. The machine is in excellent working condition.—For price, &c., address "A. B.," Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London.—Feb. 2, 1856.

WATER-WHEELS AND STAMPS' AXLES FOR SALE.

FOR SALE, a FIRST-RATE WATER-WHEEL (by Whitby and Co., of Warrington), 40 ft. diameter, 6 ft. breast, buckets 12*½* deep; all iron, except arms; cost when new upwards of £1000. The warehouse room being required, it would be sold for £200. It is laying a short distance from Newton Quay, and the railway Station. Also, TWO STAMPS' AXLES, 12 heads each, with framing, &c., complete; a 30 ft. WATER-WHEEL, nearly new, with 3*½* in. diam. breast, buckets 12*½* deep; all iron, except arms; and a quantity of 5 in., 8 in., and 9 in. PUMPS.—For particulars, address CHAS. and HY. WEBB, ironfounders, &c., Newton Abbott, Devon.

IMPORTANT ANTHRACITE OR STONE COAL COLLIERY TO BE LET.

in the centre of the coal field of PEMBROKESHIRE, accessible to the Harbour of Milford Haven. This estate is nearly 500 acres in extent, situated in the parish of Loveston, near the shipping place of Crosswell Quay, and contains all those pure and high-priced veins of ANTHRACITE or STONE COAL, so celebrated amongst masters. Levels to drain the crop water have been driven. Pits have been sunk on some of the veins, and engines and engine-houses, shops, storerooms, and office, &c., have been erected; and the colliery is now partially worked, and is in admirable condition for being opened out on an extensive scale, at a moderate outlay.

—Apply to the proprietor, GEORGE BROTHEROE, Esq., Tenby.—March 10, 1856.

FOR SALE, HIGHLY VALUABLE AND EXTENSIVE COLLIERY PLANT AND MACHINERY.

Early in the month of May next, the particulars of which, with due notice, will be given in future advertisements (if not previously disposed of by private contract), ALL that PLANT and MACHINERY above alluded to, consisting of a STEAM-ENGINE, 40-horse power, 12 in. pump, complete, and in excellent order for work; a 20-horse power engine, fitted for winding and pumping; a set of 10 in. pumps, all complete, and now at work; a 16-horse power winding engine; with a great variety of materials for colliery purposes.—Apply to ROBERT BROOK, Esq., Pentrefoel, Tenby.

MR. NICHOLAS ENNOR intends LEAVING on his ANNUAL TOUR OF INSPECTION about the LATTER WEEK in MARCH.

Shareholders desirous of having mines inspected will send on their orders early, as he will only charge, when in the vicinity of the mines, the fee of a resident agent.

THE MINING SHARE LIST.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
51200	Alfred Consols (copper), Phillack*	£211s. 10d.	514	14 14 1/2	£14 3 0	£20 5 0—Feb. 1856.
1624	Ballewidden (tin), St. Just	11 1/2	5	9 1/2 9 1/2	12 5 0	9 5 0—Jan. 1854.
4200	Bedford United (copper), Tavistock	21. 6s. 8d.	10	9 1/2 9 1/2	8 3 0	9 5 0—Feb. 1856.
5000	Black Craig (lead), Kirkcudbrightshire	5	—	—	3 2 0	9 2 6—July, 1855.
240	Boosean (tin), St. Just	20 1/2	9 1/2	—	3 0 0	3 0 0—Mar. 1856.
200	Bottalack (tin, copper), St. Just*	91 1/2	225	200	381 3 0	5 0 0—Feb. 1856.
100	Bryndaf Hall (lead), Flint	20	87 1/2	—	3 0 0	3 0 0—Jan. 1856.
1000	Carn Brea (copper, tin), Illogan	15	85	80	231 10 0	2 0 0—Dec. 1855.
2045	Carnyorth (tin), St. Just	3	5	—	0 9 0	3 0 0—Dec. 1855.
10000	Castle slate Quarry, Dolwyddan	1	1 1/2	—	0 2 2	0 0 4—Feb. 1855.
200	Cefn Cwm Brwyno (lead), Cardiganshire	33	80	9 1/2	3 0 0	3 0 0—Sept. 1855.
236	Conford (copper), Gwenpant, Cornwall	78	9 1/2	—	3 0 0	3 0 0—June, 1856.
256	Condurrow (copper, tin), Camborne*	20	140	145	65 0 0	4 0 0—Mar. 1856.
128	Cwmystwyth (lead), Cardiganshire	60	120	—	55 0 0	0 0 0—Nov. 1856.
1024	Devon Great Consols (copper), Tavistock*	1	405	405	479 0 0	9 0 0—Jan. 1856.
672	Ding Dong (tin), Galvast.	32	32	40	8 7 0	3 10 0—Mar. 1856.
175	Dolcoath (copper, tin), Camborne*	237 1/2	130	—	353 4 0	4 0 0—Feb. 1856.
13000	Drake Walls (tin, copper), Calstock	17. 19s. 6d.	—	—	0 6 0	0 1 6—April, 1856.
300	East Darren (lead), Cardiganshire	32	90	—	8 0 0	4 0 0—Nov. 1854.
128	East Pool (tin, copper), Pool, Illogan*	24 1/2	170	210	250 10 0	2 10 0—Feb. 1856.
1024	East Wheal Margaret (tin, copper)	5 1/2	7	8 8 1/2	0 5 0	0 5 0—Feb. 1856.
1400	Eyam Mining Company, Derbyshire	3 1/2	—	26 1/2	6 13 4	0 10 0—Jan. 1856.
494	Fowey Consols (copper), Twardreath	40	30	—	0 5 0	5 0 0—June, 1855.
2240	Foxdale, Isle of Man	71. 10s. 6d.	35	—	404 13 0	3 0 0—Feb. 1856.
330	Ditto (New Shares of 25s. each)	25	30	—	47 7 3	1 0 0—Mar. 1856.
4448	General Mining Co. for Ireland (cop., lead)	3	2	—	1 0 8	0 3 3—June, 1853.
2000	Goginan (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	8	6	—	22 0 0	5 0 0—Sept. 1850.
1924	Gonamens (copper), St. Cleer	13 1/2	23 1/2	22	0 7 6	0 7 6—Dec. 1852.
13750	Great Polgoon (tin), St. Austell	4 1/2	2 1/2	—	0 10 0	4 0 3—Oct. 1852.
6000	Great South Tolgas.	2 1/2	6	—	0 2 6	0 2 6—June, 1855.
20666	Great Wheal Vor (tin, copper), Helston	5	4 1/2	4 1/2	0 5 0	5 0 0—June, 1855.
119	Great Work (tin), Germoe	100	130	—	181 10 0	5 0 0—Nov. 1854.
1024	Herodfoot (lead), near Liskeard	8 1/2	—	—	0 4 0	0 4 0—Mar. 1856.
6000	Hington Down Consols (copper), Calstock	3 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	2 12 6	0 7 6—April, 1854.
2000	Holyford (copper), near Tipperary	11	9	—	3 7 0	0 2 0—Nov. 1855.
78	Jamaica (lead), Mold, Flintshire	51. 13s. 6d.	—	—	380 0 0	5 0 0—Mar. 1856.
2048	Kenneyge (copper), Breage	68. 7d.	—	—	0 4 0	0 4 0—Mar. 1856.
20	Laxey Mining Company, Isle of Man	100	1000	—	1320 0 0	5 0 0—Jan. 1856.
160	Levant (copper, tin), St. Just	3 1/2	120	—	1050 0 0	2 0 0—Feb. 1856.
400	Lisourne (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	13 1/2	150	—	223 12 0	5 0 0—June, 1855.
320	Machno slate and Slab Company	25	29	—	2 10 0	1 5 0—Dec. 1854.
160	Ditto (New Shares)	18 1/2	22 1/2	—	1 17 0	0 15 0—Dec. 1854.
6000	Marke Valley (copper), Cardigan	41. 10s. 6d.	34	—	0 5 6	0 3 0—Sept. 1855.
5000	Mendix Hills (lead), Somerset	3 1/2	—	—	0 17 0	0 7 6—Dec. 1854.
5700	Merlyn (lead), Flint	21. 18s. 6d.	1	—	1 11 0	0 2 6—June, 1855.
24000	Mining Co. of Ireland (copper, lead, coal)	7	13 1/2	—	11 14 6	0 14 0—Jan. 1856.
7500	Nantlle Vale (slate), Llanllynn	1	1 1/2	—	0 3 9	0 1 3—Nov. 1854.
6400	Nether Heath, Westmoreland	28	15	—	0 1 0	0 1 0—Oct. 1855.
470	Newtonards Mining Company, Co. Down	50	50	—	44 0 0	1 0 0—Oct. 1855.
200	North Pool (copper, tin), Pool	23 1/2	155	—	234 0 0	2 0 0—Dec. 1854.
140	North Roskar (copper), Camborne	10	80	—	249 10 0	4 0 0—Sept. 1855.
5000	North Wheal Basset (copper, tin), Illogan*	n.d.	42	39 41	7 12 6	0 14 0—Feb. 1856.
6100	Par Consols (copper), St. Blazey	15	20	19 19 1/2	23 18 0	0 12 0—Oct. 1855.
500	Peak United (lead), North Derbyshire	7 1/2	11	—	4 0 0	0 10 0—Oct. 1855.
200	Phoenix (copper, tin), Linkinhorne	30	55	—	147 0 0	37 0 0—Dec. 1855.
1000	Polberro (tin), St. Agnes (Preference)	15	—	—	11 3 10	1 4 0—Oct. 1855.
560	Provident Mine (tin), Ury Lelant	20. 12s. 2d.	55	—	30 4 6	5 0 0—Feb. 1856.
512	Rosewarne United (copper, tin), Gwinear*	12	117 1/2	107 1/2	19 10 0	4 0 0—Feb. 1856.
12000	Sortridge Consols (cop.), Whitechurch, Devon	6s.	3 1/2	3 1/2 3 1/2	0 2 6	0 2 6—Jan. 1856.
256	South Caradon (copper), St. Cleer	2 1/2	305	300	80 0 0	8 0 0—Jan. 1856.
123	South Crinius (copper), St. Austell	19	375	—	60 0 0	20 0 0—June, 1855.
9000	South Tamar (silver-lead), Beerfeast	11. 6s. 6d.	6	6 1/2 6 1/2	3 5 0	5 0 0—Jan. 1856.
176	South Tolgas (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	16	140	—	69 0 0	4 0 0—May, 1855.
1024	Spears Consols (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	13 1/2	355	350	190 5 0	10 0 0—Mar. 1856.
496	South Wheal Frances (cop.), Illogan* 18. 18s. 9d.	—	—	8 8 0	2 0 6—Dec. 1853.	
1024	Spears Moor (copper, St. Just)	23 1/2	—	—	3 0 0	1 0 0—Dec. 1855.
1024	St. Aubyn and Grylls (cop., tin), Breage	31. 17s. 8d.	50	—	6 17 6	0 7 6—April, 1855.
91	St. Ives Consols (tin), St. Ives	50	100	—	888 0 0	0 0 0—Feb. 1856.
9300	Tamar Consols (silver-lead), Beralston	4 1/2	3 1/2	2 1/2 2 1/2	4 13 6	0 2 6—Feb. 1856.
6000	Tineroft (copper, tin), near Pool, Illogan	9	4 1/2	—	7 3 6	0 5 0—Feb. 1856.
2048	Trehane (silver-lead), Menheniot	3	4 1/2	2 1/2 3	8 11 3	0 5 0—Dec. 1855.
572	Trelwyn Consols (tin), St. Ives	11 1/2	25	—	1 15 0	1 0 0—Feb. 1854.
98	Treasvean (copper), Gwenpant, Cornwall	32 1/2	130	—	4677 15 0	5 0 0—June, 1855.
120	Fretthelan (copper), Gwenpant, Cornwall	10 1/2	25	—	403 13 6	2 10 0—April, 1851.
10000	Trevalga (slate), Boscastle	1	—	—	0 1 0	0 1 0—Feb. 1855.
4096	Trewetha (slate), Menheniot	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2 3	0 17 0	0 4 0—Dec. 1855.
100	Trumpet Consols (tin), near Helston	95	90	—	55 0 0	5 0 0—Dec. 1855.
400	United Mines (copper), Gwenpant	40	225	220 225	61 5 0	2 0 0—Feb. 1856.
20000	Vale of Towy (ld.), Llangunnor, Carmarthensh.	3 1/2	—	1 1/2 1 1/2	0 2 0	0 1 0—Jan. 1856.
1024	Wellington (copper, tin), Perranporth	8 1/2	—	—	2 5 0	0 2 6—Jan. 1856.
10500	Welsh Potos (silver-lead), Talybont, Card.	5	6	—	1 0 0	0 5 0—July, 1855.
6000	West Bassett (copper), Illogan*	1 1/2	3 1/2	—	0 12 0	0 3 0—July, 1855.
256	West Caradon (copper), Liskeard	20	130	140 142 1/2	274 5 0	5 0 0—Aug. 1855.
1224	West Damsel (copper), Gwenpant	20 1/2	80	80 85	12 6 0	2 0 0—May, 1855.
400	West Providence (tin), St. Erth	5	15	—	25 3 0	0 15 0—Jan. 1856.
1228	Wheal Arthur (copper), Calstock	7	10	—	6 10 0	0 10 0—Oct. 1855.
240	Wheal Basset (copper), Illogan	6 1/2	—	—	1 0 0	0 0 0—Aug. 1855.
512	Wheal Bassett (copper), Illogan*	5 1/2	390	385	382 10 0	12 10 0—Feb. 1856.
256	Wheal Buller (copper), Redruth	5	575	590	746 5 0	20 0 0—Jan. 1856.
1024	Wheal Charlotte, Perranporth	3 1/2	6	—	1 10 0	0 10 0—Sept. 1855.
250	Wheal Clifford (copper), Gwenpant	—	425	420	9 1 3	2 14 4—Aug. 1855.
5700	Wheal Exmouth and Adams United	41. 14s.	8	—	13 13 0	0 3 0—Feb. 1856.
5000	Wheal Fortescue, Bodmin	n.d.	14	14	0 2 4	0 1 6—Jan. 1856.
128	Wheal Friendship (copper), Devon	110	—	2375 10 0	8 0 0—May, 1854.	
512	Wheal Jane (silver-lead), Kea	3 1/2	10	9 1/2 10	1 0 0—Oct. 1854.	
1024	Wheal Kitty (tin), Ury Lelant	£1 7 2	10	—	1 0 0	0 10 0—Dec. 1854.
430	Wheal Lavel (tin), Wendron	33	20	—	30 0 0	2 0 0—Aug. 1854.
448	Wheal Margaret (tin), Ury Lelant*					